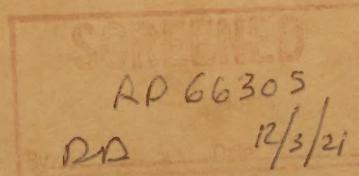


U. S. Department of Justice

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51223

FEDERAL BUREAU

*of*

INVESTIGATION

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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Transfer-Call 3421

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: 4/10/58

FROM : G. A. Nease

SUBJECT:

30 9-1  
3

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Nease	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

ASAC Norman McCabe called from New York today calling attention to the reviews of a new show which opened yesterday in New York entitled "The Next President" featuring Mort Sahl, a comedian. It will be noted that the New York Herald Tribune quotes Sahl as stating "J. Edgar Hoover's new book - 'How to turn your friends in to the FBI for fun and profit.'"

The New York Times indicates that Sahl is against anything that is solemn and pretentious and that mixing psychoanalytical patter with his comments on political figures, he has funny things to say about Eisenhower, Dulles, J. Edgar Hoover and MacArthur - all of whom are sitting ducks for his skeptical attitude towards the contemporary world."

The files are being checked concerning Sahl and the New York Office ~~will be~~ advised that someone should attend this show.

*has been*

GAN:hpf

(3)

Enclosures

cc - Mr. Jones

2 ENCLOSURE EX - 126  
77

V. Open  
 REC-77 94-51223-1  
 EX-126 16 APR 11 1958  
 MCI-124 CRIME REG  
 61 APR 17 1958

# FIRST NIGHT REPORT

## WALTER KERR

### 'The Next President'

## BIJOU THEATER

A new revue in two acts starring Mort Sahl, staged by Frank B. Nichols, settings and lighting by Lee Watson, presented by Mr. Nichols. Features The Jimmy Giuffre 3, The Folk Singers and Anneliese Widman.

"WE'VE really come a long way," comedian Mort Sahl keeps saying as he runs over such triumphant developments of the past few years as errant missiles ("it's the perfect missile, it destroys itself"), J. Edgar Hoover's new book ("How to turn your friends in to the F. B. I. for fun and profit"), and the cabinet activities of a man named Wilson ("General Motors may become vindictive and cut the government off without a cent").

And, in a way, he's right. The very fact that a fast-talking man in a sweater can hire the Bijou for the night, swing right, left, and sideways at any political or social phenomenon you care to name, and tease people into laughing out loud and quite frequently is an indication that something in our society has begun—after too many muddy and fearful years—to change. First thing you know, irreverence will be in vogue again, and even satire may wear its old outrageous and becoming smile.

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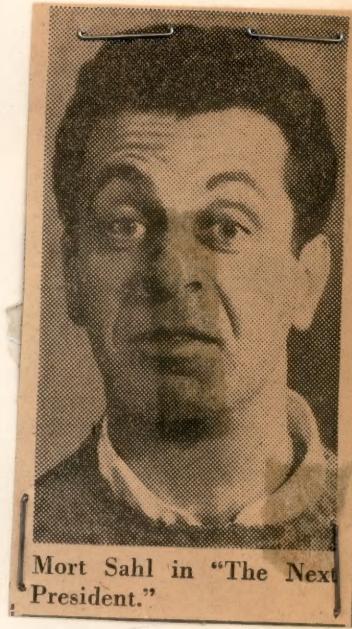
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Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Nease	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____



Mort Sahl in "The Next President."

Wash. Post and	_____
Times Herald	_____
Wash. News	_____
Wash. Star	_____
N. Y. Herald	18
Tribune	_____
N. Y. Journal-American	_____
N. Y. Mirror	_____
N. Y. Daily News	_____
N. Y. Times	_____
Daily Worker	_____
The Worker	_____
New Leader	_____

Date APR 10 1958

ENCLOSURE

94-51223-1

# Theatre: 'Next President'

## Mort Sahl Throws Hat in the Ring at Bijou

By BROOKS ATKINSON

No one knows the exact significance of the title of the miniature show that opened last evening at the Bijou. "The Next President," the program says.

If it means that Mort Sahl, the one-man talking-machine, is to be the next President, the idea is not far out of line. Check down the list of Presidents in your vest-pocket diary. Millard Fillmore. Franklin Pierce. Is the prospect of Mort Sahl so startling?

Mr. Sahl is a pleasant-looking young man with curly hair and regular teeth who has read everything, believes none of it and talks about it at breakneck speed. He began as a saloon talker in San Francisco, where he has a great following, and has talked his way East to local saloons, where enough people think well enough of him to boost him on to the stage of a small Broadway theatre.

This may be one boost too many. One act of Sahlism is stimulating. Although he does change his sweater for the second act, he changes nothing else except the subject, and by curtain time the brightness is wearing off. This is a problem in showmanship. For Mr. Sahl's conversation is fast, literate, witty and spontaneous.

He is against anything that is solemn and pretentious, which gives him a wide field. Mixing psychoanalytical patter with his comments on political figures, he has funny things to say about Eisenhower, Dulles, J. Edgar Hoover and MacArthur—all of whom are sitting ducks for his skeptical attitude towards the contemporary world.

Or just give him a general subject like the case of three earnest robbers trying to cope with a bank teller who has had a college education. Mr. Sahl manages to turn it into a satire on group dynamics, semantics, the science of crime detection and the culture of the organization man. Name anything that is current in intellectual society and Mr. Sahl can make it look either bogus or hopeless. Without being smart or clever, he can manage to get to the core of things that are ridiculous. Although he talks in circles, his aim is unerring.

The management has striven to build around him a casual little show that harmonizes with his style on a sophisti-

cated level. But that is hard to do. When the Folk Singers begin the program with their "Chorus of the Collective Conscience," the same satirical point of view that seems so valid in Mr. Sahl becomes uncomfortably contrived and condescending. And their authentic folk songs sound a little pallid, the singers are so fastidious.

The Jimmy Giuffre 3 jazz combo is also terribly refined. It consists of Jimmy Giuffre, saxophone and clarinet, Jim Hall, guitar, and Bob Brookmeyer, trombone—all of them educated instrumentalists. Eliminating the bull fiddle and percussion, they give you the abstract patterns of jazz music with obvious skill. Does any one here remember the vulgarity of Jimmy Europe's uninhibited jazz band? Jazz suitable for the drawing room has come a long way from its untamed origins. And it is to be feared that Anneliese Widman's dance solos to jazz accompaniments belong in the "O, the Pain of It" or "O, the Joy of It" bracket.

Mr. Sahl is a conspicuously talented satirist of the foibles of the egghead. But he and his associates have not yet found the way to make him a full-length stage entertainer.

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Nease	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____



Mort Sahl

Wash. Post and	_____
Times Herald	_____
Wash. News	_____
Wash. Star	_____
N. Y. Herald	_____
Tribune	_____
N. Y. Journal-American	_____
N. Y. Mirror	_____
N. Y. Daily News	_____
N. Y. Times	34
Daily Worker	_____
The Worker	_____
New Leader	_____

Date APR 10 1958

### The Cast

THE NEXT PRESIDENT, a "musical salmagundi." Staged and produced by Frank B. Nichols; scenery and lighting by Lee Watson; production stage manager, Robert Livingston, at the Bijou Theatre.  
PRINCIPALS: Mort Sahl, the Jimmy Giuffre 3 (Mr. Giuffre, Bob Brookmeyer and Jim Hall), the Folk Singers, Anneliese Widman and others.

ENCLOSURE

94-51223-1

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nease

DATE: April 10, 1958

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: STAGE SHOW, "THE NEXT PRESIDENT"  
 STARRING MORT SAHL *N.Y. Comedian*  
 BIJOU THEATER  
 NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Toleson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BACKGROUND:

The April 10, 1958, issues of the "New York Times" and the "New York Herald Tribune" both carried in the theater section a review of captioned show which opened last night, April 9. This is a new revue in two acts, and the "New York Times" review calls it a "musical saffagundi." Sahl is a comedian who ridicules well-known personages and American institutions throughout the show. Both reviews are rather guarded, and while they admit Sahl is quite funny and talented, they infer the revue drags a little at times and that he has not yet completely learned how to hold an audience.

The "Herald Tribune" concludes its review stating:

"In sum? The over-all enterprise is curious, a bit ratchety, genuinely casual and decidedly uneven. But I think you'll want, sooner or later, to make Mr. Sahl's acquaintance. And it's nice to know that improper things can once more be said in public."

The "Times" concludes its review stating:

"Mr. Sahl is a conspicuously talented satirist of the foibles of the egghead. But he and his associates have not yet found the way to make him a full-length stage entertainer."

The only mention of the Director or the Bureau in the "Times" review is contained in a sentence, "Mixing psychoanalytical patter with his comments on political figures, he has funny things to say about Eisenhower, Dulles, J. Edgar Hoover and MacArthur--all of whom are sitting ducks for his skeptical attitude towards the contemporary world."

REC- 13

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The "Herald Tribune" review mentions the Director and the Bureau in the first paragraph as follows:

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(continued next page) 12 APR 14 1958DGH: geg  
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76 APR 18 1958 F173  
ENCLOSURE  
Newspaper  
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VIB 10 22 BN 28

CRIME REC.

Jones to Nease memorandum

"'We've really come a long way,' comedian Mort Sahl keeps saying as he runs over such triumphant developments of the past few years as errant missiles ('its the perfect missile, it destroys itself'), J. Edgar Hoover's new book ('How to turn your friends in to the F. B. I. for fun and profit'), and the cabinet activities of a man named Wilson ('General Motors may become vindictive and cut the government off without a cent')."

INFORMATION IN BUREAU FILES:

MORT SAHL:

Bureau indices are negative on the name, Mort Sahl.

FRANK B. NICHOLS:

The referenced reviews indicate that "The Next President" was staged and produced by Frank B. Nichols. Nichols is not identifiable in Bufiles.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

# Theatre: 'Next President'

## Mort Sahl Throws Hat in the Ring at Bijou

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Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____



Mort Sahl

Wash. Post and	_____
Times Herald	_____
Wash. News	_____
Wash. Star	_____
N. Y. Herald	_____
Tribune	_____
N. Y. Journal-American	_____
N. Y. Mirror	_____
N. Y. Daily News	_____
N. Y. Times	34
Daily Worker	_____
The Worker	_____
New Leader	_____

Date APR 10 1958

62-0-58118  
94-1-51223-1X  
ENCLOSURE

# FIRST NIGHT REPORT

## WALTER KERR

### 'The Next President'

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Holloman	_____
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Mort Sahl in "The Next President."

Wash. Post and	_____
Times Herald	_____
Wash. News	_____
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Tribune	_____
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N. Y. Daily News	_____
N. Y. Times	_____
Daily Worker	_____
The Worker	_____
New Leader	_____

Date APR 10 1958

62-0-58118  
ENCLOSURE 94-51223-1X

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
     ATT: CRIME RECORDS

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (94-new)

SUBJECT: "THE NEXT PRESIDENT"  
         A MUSICAL COMEDY  
         BIJOU THEATRE, NEW YORK CITY <sup>NY</sup>  
         INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 4/14/58

*MORT SAHL*

Re NY telcal to Bureau and Bureau telcal on 4/10/58  
       instructing that an agent attend captioned show and report details.

"The Next President" is classified in press and on posters as a musical comedy. It could be more aptly characterized as a monologue supported or interspersed with a group of Folk Singers and the Jimmy Giuffre 3, a three piece band. The stage is bare, i.e., devoid of either props or scenery.

The monologist and star of the show is MORTON SAHL. For each scene he enters on to the stage carrying a newspaper purporting to read from the respective headlines. SAHL in a satiric vein talks rapidly about events of current interest. During this monologue he speaks about events and people of importance and prominence, without restraint and in an unbridled manner. At one point he mentions the new book "Masters of Deceit" by J. EDGAR HOOVER of the FBI, he recommends the book to all since it has considerable merit in telling one how to turn your friends in to the FBI for fun and profit. In his patter, SAHL talks about Colonel ABEL, the Greenwich Village Bohemian who was a Russian spy for six years before the FBI caught him. Continuing on this event much is stated about how all Colonel ABEL's Bohemian friends knew he was a Russian spy from the very beginning.

The above two incidents are the only mention of Director J. EDGAR HOOVER and the FBI. Although there is a format, it is believed that the patter of monologist MORTON SAHL may vary some from show to show.

There were many empty seats at the show. Todate it has not been well attended. If the present attendance does not improve, it is felt that this show will have to close down.

The show is produced by FRANK B. NICHOLS. The indices of NYO disclose no information identifiable with either FRANK B. NICHOLS or MORT SAHL. Enclosed with this letter is a program and three newspaper reviews.

2-Bureau (Encs. 4)  
 1-NY (94-new)

EXHIBIT

MCT-4928

REC-20

EX-131

MMO'R:EEC

57 APR 22 1958 (3)

PRODUCER DIRECTOR OF SUBJECT PLAY  
 NY 12 21 1958  
 APR 16 1958  
 CRIME REC

ENCLOSURES (4) BUREAU

ATT: CRIME RECORDS

NY 94-new

Re: "THE NEXT PRESIDENT"  
A MUSICAL COMEDY,  
BIJOU THEATRE, NYC  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

94-51223-2

ENCLOSURE

The  
Bijou  
Theatre

# PLAYBILL

*a weekly magazine for theatregoers*



THE NEXT  
PRESIDENT

# PLAYBILL

Vol. 2

No. 14

William Becker  
Gilman Kraft

President  
Publisher

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ELIZABETH POLLOCK *Art Director*

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Books and Records / B. H. Haggan	8

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# THE BIJOU THEATRE

FRANK B. NICHOLS

*presents*

## MORT SAHL

IN

### THE NEXT PRESIDENT

A Musical Salmagundi

*Staged by*  
MR. NICHOLS

*with*

### THE JIMMY GIUFFRE 3

THE FOLK SINGERS

ANNELIESE WIDMAN

*Entire production designed by*  
LEE WATSON

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Partners Choice

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#### 1. THE CHORUS OF COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE ..... THE FOLK SINGERS

David Allen, Erik Darling, Robin Howard, Dylan Todd,  
Mary Allin Travers, Donald Vogel, Stan Watt, Caroly Wilcox

#### 2. "Cry Holy" ..... THE FOLK SINGERS

#### 3. A NIGHT-TO-NIGHT REPORT OF THE NEWS WITH COMPLETE FLEXIBILITY AS TO FOREIGN POLICY ..... MORT SAHL



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6. PRESS CONFERENCE ..... MORT SAHL and THE FOLK SINGERS



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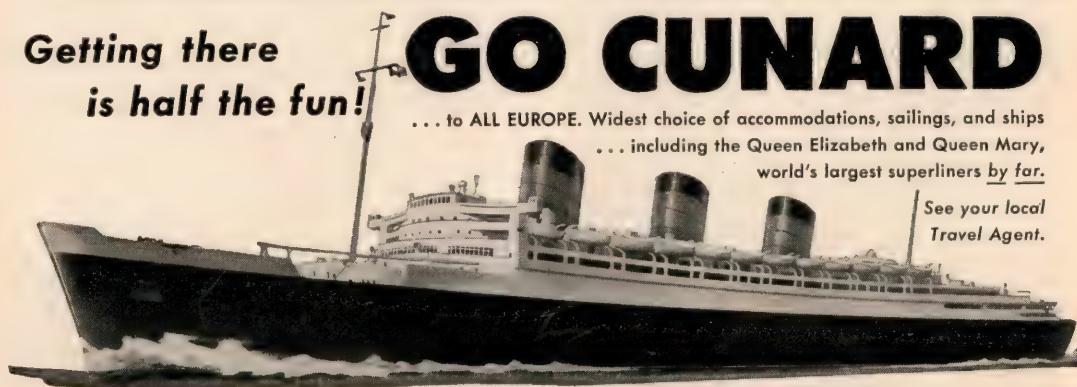
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## Who's Who in the Cast

### MORT SAHL

Mort Sahl is thirty years old, which, as he puts it, is equivalent to crashing the sound barrier. He is from California, is a graduate of the University of Southern California (1950, B.S.; major, public administration; minor, civil engineering). Articulate, an omnivorous reader, he started out wanting to be (still wants to be) a writer, wrote four one-act plays that were produced in Los Angeles, wrote one unpublished novel, a lot of unpublished short

stories, even wrote an oratorio for Stan Kenton, the bandleader and jazz musician. Sahl's first experience as a performer came in 1953 in a nightclub called the hungry i (correct spelling) in North Beach, San Francisco. A very bohemian place. He stayed eight months, building up a following as devoted as those of his two fellow San Franciscoans, Joe Di Maggio and Herb Caen. He has, in the intervening five years, performed in nightclubs all over America—notably, Mister Kelly's in Chicago, the Blue Angel and the Village Van-



guard in New York. Television audiences have seen him on the Steve Allen Show and the Jack Paar Show. He is heard two nights a week on radio on NBC's Night Line. The staple of his appearances has always been his gift for "free association comedy." He has no set act. He has a rough idea of what he is going to say, but depends on a combination of his own articulate personality with a near-total recall. His routines vary from night to night, depending on the nature of the day's news, the mood of the audience, and the direction of Sahl's cascading stream of consciousness. The *New Yorker* Magazine has described him as "the non-conformist's nonconformist" who "speaks at top speed a language that is a unique cross between a philology paper and the argot of modern jazz." His hobbies include hi-fi and sports cars, and he is articulate in the lingo of these and many other worlds.



### THE JIMMY GIUFFRE 3

The Giuffre trio consists of Jimmy Giuffre on the clarinet; Jim Hall, guitarist; and Bob Brookmeyer, trombonist. Since Octo-

ber, 1956, they have been headlining in such nightclubs as Zardi's in Los Angeles, Boston's Storyville, Detroit's Rouge Lounge, Chicago's Modern Jazz Room, Pittsburgh's Midway Lounge, and the Bohemia and the Village Vanguard in New York. The March, 1958, issue of *Metro-nome Magazine* hails them as "the rhythm section-less group currently standing jazz on its ear." Their records include "The Train and the River," the original jazz album of *The Music Man* and the forthcoming Atlantic release, "Travelin' Light." Jimmy Giuffre is a native of Dallas who acquired a Bachelor of Music Degree from North Texas State College and continued his studies in composition with Wesley La Viollette in Los Angeles. He played with Boyd Raeburn's band and the Woody Herman aggregation before forming his own combination. Jim Hall is a Clevelander who studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music and strummed his guitar with Chico Hamilton's band before joining the Giuffre group. Bob Brookmeyer learned his sharps and flats at the Conservatory of Music in his home town, Kansas City. He is an alumnus of the Stan Getz and Gerry Mulligan bands.



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### THE FOLK SINGERS

Erik Darling, Robin Howard, Dylan Todd, Mary Allin Travers, Donald Vogel, Stan Watt, Caroly Wilcox.

The Folk Singers, balladiers and troubadours, have all worked up considerable mileage folk-singing their way across the land. David Allen has sung with the bands of Jack Teagarden, Van Alexander, Boyd Raeburn and Bob Chester. He recently recorded an album of Jerome Kern songs for World Pacific Records. Erik Darling has appeared with the Tarriers on The Ed Sullivan Show, at the Village Vanguard, and at the Palace. Robin Howard replaced Geraldine Page in the London company of *The Rainmaker* and has sung at the Gate of Horn in Chicago and L'Abbaye in Paris. Dylan Todd has appeared on the Garry Moore Show and the Ernie Kovacs Show, as well as in nightclubs from Miami to San Francisco. Mary Allin Travers has concertized with Pete Seeger and has made numerous records. Donald Vogel toured for Columbia Artists after making his début in Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Stan Watt received his theatrical initiation at the Pittsburgh Playhouse and has appeared on Kraft, Studio One and other leading television shows. Caroly Wilcox has varied her folk-singing with assignments as a dance teacher and as a recreational director for social-service agencies.

### ANNELIESE WIDMAN

Anneliese Widman was born in Pforzheim near the Alsatian border of Germany. She

grew up in New York, majoring in drama at Hunter College. She made her professional début in a USO company touring European Army bases in *Up in Central Park* and has appeared on Broadway in *A Flag Was Born, Bless You All, Flahooley* and *The Golden Apple*. She has danced for the past two years with the City Center Opera Company and has given solo recitals at the Henry Street Settlement and the Y.M.H.A.



### FRANK B. NICHOLS

*Producer and Director*

As producer and director Mr. Nichols has been associated with three outstanding clarinetists—Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman



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and Jimmy Giuffre. He started out in the entertainment world directing Shaw in the Old Gold Show on radio, then produced a vaudeville unit to serve as vehicle for bringing Goodman to the stage of the nation's leading film odeons. More recently he has managed the destinies of The Jimmy Giuffre 3, the cool combo whose distinctive rhythms supplement Mort Sahl's monologues in *The Next President*. Nichols first became acquainted with Sahl two years ago at the hungry i in San Francisco, and has been managing his career ever since. During the course of the past five years Nichols has produced some eighty-six commercial and religious films for television. These shows include *Look Up and Live* and *Frontiers of Faith*, sponsored by the National Council of Churches and the Union of Hebrew Congregations.



DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATT: CRIME RECORDS

4/14/58

SAC, NEW YORK (94-new)

"THE NEXT PRESIDENT"  
A MUSICAL COMEDY  
BLIJOU THEATRE, NEW YORK CITY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re NY telcal to Bureau and Bureau telcal on 4/10/58  
instructing that an agent attend captioned show and report details.

"The Next President" is classified in press and on posters as a musical comedy. It could be more aptly characterized as a monologue supported or interspersed with a group of Folk Singers and the Jimmy Giuffre 3, a three piece band. The stage is bare, i.e., devoid of either props or scenery.

The monologist and star of the show is MORTON SAHL. For each scene he enters on to the stage carrying a newspaper purporting to read from the respective headlines. SAHL in a satiric vein talks rapidly about events of current interest. During this monologue he speaks about events and people of importance and prominence, without restraint and in an unbridled manner. At one point he mentions the new book "Masters of Deceit" by J. EDGAR HOOVER of the FBI, he recommends the book to all since it has considerable merit in telling one how to turn your friends in to the FBI for fun and profit. In his patter, SAHL talks about Colonel ABEL, the Greenwich Village Bohemian who was a Russian spy for six years before the FBI caught him. Continuing on this event much is stated about how all Colonel ABEL's Bohemian friends knew he was a Russian spy from the very beginning.

The above two incidents are the only mention of Director J. EDGAR HOOVER and the FBI. Although there is a format, it is believed that the patter of monologist MORTON SAHL may vary some from show to show.

There were many empty seats at the show. To date it has not been well attended. If the present attendance does not improve, it is felt that this show will have to close down.

The show is produced by FRANK B. NICHOLS. The indices of NYO disclose no information identifiable with either FRANK B. NICHOLS or MORT SAHL. Enclosed with this letter is a program and three newspaper reviews.

①  
2-Bureau (Encs.4)  
1-NY (94-new)

Copy

94-51223-2

MMO'R:KEC  
(3)



## TWO on the AISLE

By RICHARD  
WATTS Jr.

### A Frank Young Man Named Mort Sahl

It is possible that the odd little show which opened last night at the Bijou Theater is called "The Next President" because it hasn't anything to do with the next President. It may mention him, though, since the topical monologues which make up most of the evening are strewn with the names of political personages currently or recently in the news. What it tries to be is an informal showcase for the talents of a commendably outspoken young man named Mort Sahl.

One tentative way of describing this Mr. Sahl might be to call him a kind of Will Rogers of the beat generation. Carrying a newspaper and with his shirt open at the neck, his vocabulary bristling with the lore of the up-to-date young intellectual, he chats with the audience freely, brightly and pungently, giving without fear or favor his views of the contem-



MORT SAHL

porary world and the people running it from the standpoint of the uninhibited and untamed political liberal.

CLIPPING FROM THE

N. Y. Post

EDITION 2 Blue Final

DATED 4-10-58

PAGE 22

FORWARDED BY NY DIVISION

NOT FORWARDED BY NY DIVISION

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 10 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

### 'The Next President'

A show described as "a musical salmagundi" was presented last night at the Bijou Theater by Frank B. Nichols, it starred Mort Sahl, who was assisted by the Jimmy Giuffre 3, the Folk Singers and Anneliese Widman.

clearly talented entertainer is that at this point in his career he belongs more to a Greenwich Village night club than on the Broadway stage. For one thing, he hasn't yet learned when to stop, and he has an unfortunate way of going on and on until the law of diminishing returns sets in.

#### The Show

It is also unfortunately true that he isn't surrounded by much of a show. It, too, belongs in that Greenwich Village establishment. There is certainly novelty in a performance which has numbers known as "The Chorus of Collective Conscience" and "A Night-to-Night Report of the News With Complete Flexibility as to Foreign Policy." But the whole thing simply doesn't add up to a satisfactory evening's entertainment in the theater, for all of Mr. Sahl's brightness.

When the star isn't talking, the stage is taken over by a jazz combination that calls itself the Jimmy Giuffre 3 and a group known simply as the Folk Singers. I must say that I found the latter more agreeable, particularly when doing a song named "The Deep Blue Sea." There is also a very serious dancer in Anneliese Widman. Mort Sahl is a man we are likely to hear more of, and I'm all for him, but I doubt if he was well advised to try Broadway just yet.

#### Man With Views

He is probably the only specialist in humorously topical commentary now at large in the theater who makes fun of J. Edgar Hoover and remembers with scorn the late activities of Cohn and Schine. He isn't averse to suggesting the possibilities of a book to be entitled "How to Turn in Your Friends for Fun and Money." And I'm fairly sure that he is the one comedian to toss in the word "mores" but feel called upon to identify Errol Flynn when he mentions him.

In fewer words, he is a bright, intelligent and forthright humorist, with a bitter contempt for the course of political events that he doesn't mind expressing vigorously. The only trouble with a

# FIRST NIGHT REPORT WALTER KERR *'The Next President'*

## BIJOU THEATER

A new revue in two acts starring Mort Sahl, staged by Frank B. Nichols, settings and lighting by Lee Wilson, presented by Mr. Nichols. Features The Jimmy Giuffre 3, The Folk Singers and Anneliese Widman.

"WE'VE really come a long way," comedian Mort Sahl keeps saying as he runs over such triumphant developments of the past few years as errant missiles ("it's the perfect missile, it destroys itself"), J. Edgar Hoover's new book ("How to turn your friends in to the F. B. I. for fun and profit"), and the cabinet activities of a man named Wilson ("General Motors may become vindictive and cut the government off without a cent").

And, in a way, he's right. The very fact that a fast-talking man in a sweater can hire the Bijou for the night, swing right, left, and sideways at any political or social phenomenon you care to name, and tease people into laughing out loud and quite frequently is an indication that



Mort Sahl in "The Next President."

CLIPPING FROM THE

N. Y.

EDITION

DATED

PAGE

N.Y. HERALD TRIBUNE  
Sat. Apr. 10

10 APR 1958

FORWARDED BY NY DIVISION

NOT FORWARDED BY NY DIVISION

80-852

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
X APR 10 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Ronice

something in our society has begun—after too many muddy and fearful years—to change. First thing you know, irreverence will be in vogue again, and even satire may wear its old outrageous and becoming smile.

Mr. Sahl is not exactly Will Rogers with benzedrine, and he's not exactly S. J. Perelman on a political kick, either. He's certainly hyper, with fidgety fingers that keep stabbing at his mouth when he seems to be thinking, elbows that jerk a lot between spasms of disconnected reflection, an unsettled mouth that can't help twitching with pleasure when he's got off a good one, and a habit of clenching his teeth fitfully as though he were grinding up something, or some one, in preparation for the next news bulletin.

The bulletins are shot out in a process that Mr. Sahl calls "free association" (meaning that a line like "He was a real Russian spy" will be immediately followed by a choked-up literary cliche on the order of "That's what he wanted to do all his life"), and that is certainly related to free thought, free speech, and perhaps—in view of the fact that the performer dresses untidily and may not shave regularly—free lunch.

They deal, more or less indiscriminately, with evangelists ("the A. M. A. is not against faith healing, just against any cure that is rapid"), movies starring Marlon Brando ("the picture is about Germans who were confused during the war"), how we got our satellites up (we just all got together and pulled, and morale improved), and the problem of some veterans who held up a bank but discovered that they were the possessors of thousands of marked pennies.

Does every burst of small-shot work? No. It takes time to warm up to Mr. Sahl—he

plunges into a two-hour show as though he were limited to night-club time—and even after you've warmed up, there's a certain defensive edginess out front—as though you were hoping to get out of the theater before he turned on you. The monologist scatters his fire, and the bystander sometimes wonders if he oughtn't to keep his distance. Mr. Sahl hasn't yet learned the rather valuable, and showmanly, trick of making his customers wholly comfortable while he kicks them in the shins. I imagine that will come—with substantial loss of venom.

\* \* \*

The evening also loses a sense of total security in the surrounding vaudeville. The Folk Singers, a group of eight accompanied by banjo and guitar, are pleasant enough, they faithfully pronounce 'when' as 'whin' in all their songs, and I can always stand to hear "He's Gone Away" another time. When they engage in a kind of pseudo-Kenneth Fearing verse chorale, though, the jokes become self-conscious and familiar ("Does he live in Connecticut? Only moderately"). A jazz trio, the Jimmy Giuffre 3, makes an assortment of noises resembling the fateful meeting of a tug-boat and a zither (one or the other seemed to sink), and though it is mentioned that Leonard Bernstein has now explained jazz to us all, further explanation is in order. A barefooted dan  $\Delta$  (with Band-aids) is remarkable not only in that she can dance while they are not playing but in that she can dance while they are.

In sum? The over-all enterprise is curious, a bit ratchety, genuinely casual and decidedly uneven. But I think you'll want, sooner or later, to make Mr. Sahl's acquaintance. And it's nice to know that improper things can once more be said in public.

## Theatre: 'Next President'

### Mort Sahl Throws Hat in the Ring at Bijou

By BROOKS ATKINSON

NO one knows the exact significance of the title of the miniature show that opened last evening at the Bijou, "The Next President," the program says.

If it means that Mort Sahl, the one-man talking-machine, is to be the next President, the idea is not far out of line. Check down the list of Presidents in your vest-pocket diary. Millard Fillmore. Franklin Pierce. Is the prospect of Mort Sahl so startling?

Mr. Sahl is a pleasant-looking young man with curly hair and regular teeth who has read everything, believes none of it and talks about it at breakneck speed. He began as a saloon talker in San Francisco, where he has a great following, and has talked his way East to local saloons, where enough people think well enough of him to boost him on to the stage of a small Broadway theatre.

This may be one boost too many. One act of Sahilism is stimulating. Although he does change his sweater for the second act, he changes noth-



Mort Sahl

### The Cast

IN NEXT PRESIDENT, a "musical salmagundi." Staged and produced by Frank B. Nichols; scenery and lighting by Lee Watson; production stage manager, Robert Livingston. At the Bijou Theatre.

PRINCIPALS: Mort Sahl, the Jimmy Giuffre 3 (Mr. Giuffre, Bob Brookmeyer and Jim Hall), the Folk Singers, Anneliese Widman and others.

CLIPPING FROM THE  
N.Y. TIMES

EDITION *MetLife*  
DATED 10 APR 1958

PAGE

FORWARDED BY NY DIVISION

NOT FORWARDED BY NY DIVISION

*Open care on our  
interest in this play*

*S*

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 10 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

*Ronke*

ing else except the subject, and by curtain time the brightness is wearing off. This is a problem in showmanship. For Mr. Sahl's conversation is fast, literate, witty and spontaneous.

He is against anything that is solemn and pretentious, which gives him a wide field. Mixing psychoanalytical patter with his comments on political figures, he has funny things to say about Eisenhower, Dulles, J. Edgar Hoover and MacArthur—all of whom are sitting ducks for his skeptical attitude towards the contemporary world.

Or just give him a general subject like the case of three earnest robbers trying to cope with a bank teller who has had a college education. Mr. Sahl manages to turn it into a satire on group dynamics, semantics, the science of crime detection and the culture of the organization man. Name anything that is current in intellectual society and Mr. Sahl can make it look either bogus or hopeless. Without being smart or clever, he can manage to get to the core of things that are ridiculous. Although he talks in circles, his aim is unerring.

The management has striven to build around him a casual little show that harmonizes with his style on a sophisti-

cated level. But that is hard to do. When the Folk Singers begin the program with their "Chorus of the Collective Conscience," the same satirical point of view that seems so valid in Mr. Sahl becomes uncomfortably contrived and condescending. And their authentic folk songs sound a little pallid, the singers are so fastidious.

The Jimmy Giuffre 3 jazz ~~continuo~~ is also terribly tame. It consists of Jimmy Giuffre, saxophone and clarinet, Jim Hall, guitar, and Bob Brookmeyer, trombone—all of them educated instrumentalists. Eliminating the bull fiddle and percussion, they give you the abstract patterns of jazz music with obvious skill. Does any one here remember the vulgarity of Jimmy Europe's uninhibited jazz band? Jazz suitable for the drawing room has come a long way from its untamed origins. ~~ATM~~ ~~it is to be feared that~~ Anneliese Widman's dance solos to jazz accompaniments belong in the "O, the Pain of It" or "O, the Joy of It" bracket.

Mr. Sahl is a conspicuously talented satirist of the foibles of the egghead. But he and his associates have not yet found the way to make him a full-length stage entertainer.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nease

DATE: April 15, 1958

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: "THE NEXT PRESIDENT"  
 MUSICAL COMEDY  
 BIJOU THEATER  
 NEW YORK CITY

*Tolson*   
*Boardman*   
*Belmont*   
*Mohr*   
*Nease*   
*Parsons*   
*Rosen*   
*Tamm*   
*Trotter*   
*Clayton*   
*Tele. Room*   
*Holloman*   
*Gandy*

"The Next President" recently opened at the Bijou Theater at New York. While classified as a musical comedy, it appears to be more of a monologue supported by a small musical combination and some folk singers. The star of the show is Morton Sahl.

The newspaper reviews of this show contained quotations from Sahl's monologue making reference to the Director. He was quoted at one point as mentioning "Masters of Deceit" and recommended the book to one and all since it had considerable merit in telling one how to turn your friends in to the FBI for fun and profit. Based on such comments, the New York Office was telephonically instructed on April 10, 1958, to have an Agent attend this production.

By letter dated April 14, 1958, New York advised that an Agent had attended this play, and the comments from the New York Office were much along the same line as those contained in the newspaper reviews. The most significant comment from New York was that this show was playing to many empty seats, and it was their opinion that unless the attendance improved measurably, the show would be forced to close. Bureau and New York indices were negative concerning Sahl, as well as the producer Frank B. Nichols. The theater program mentions that Sahl is 30 years old and is a graduate of the University of Southern California. In addition to being a monologist, he also has written plays and short stories. He became rather prominent playing in Bohemian-type night spots in San Francisco, and he has also appeared in Chicago and New York. At the present time, Sahl appears two nights a week on the National Broadcasting Company's "Night Line" radio program.

Frank B. Nichols is primarily a radio and television producer and his shows have included "Look Up and Live" and "Frontiers of Faith."

OBSERVATIONS:

REC-18

74-51223-3

It looks like this show is in bad straits and will probably close shortly, and it is not felt that any good would come of contacting Sahl or Nichols about the references to the Director in Sahl's monologue.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

50 MAY 15 1958

(See recommendation next page)

JTM:cag (3)

Jones to Nease memorandum

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that no action be taken in this matter, but that the New York papers be followed closely in order to determine if and when this play will close. If it appears that this play is to have other than a very short duration, appropriate recommendations will be made as to contacting the producer.

✓ Gov ✓

or  
J

Play is closed per Dorothy  
Kilgallen "Washington Post &  
Times Herald," 5/13/58

JTM

✓  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

5-13-58

Mr. Nease:

O  
Re: Mort Sahl

You will recall that Sahl starred  
in a review entitled "The Next President"  
which was showing on Broadway. Sahl took a  
swipe or two at the Director in his monologue.

Dorothy Kilgallen's column today  
(attached) mentions that Sahl's opus closed.

You wanted to be advised when this  
production folded.

✓ M.A. Jones/jtm

99-51233-4  
11 MAY 16 1958

REC-21

EX-117

✓  
LJ

ENCLOSURE  
67 MAY 21 1958

**Dorothy Kilgallen:**

## Bells Are Ringing Like Crazy

NEW YORK—The local answering services, so well advertised in the Broadway musical "Bells Are Ringing," are



Kilgallen

a desperate attempt to combat the competition of a dozen newly-formed firms in the same line.

Bob Hope was the most famous as well as most enthusiastic member of the audience applauding Miyoshi Umeki at the Blue Angel the other night. Quiz question: Why do the "Angel" ads bill the Academy Award winner merely as "Miyoshi"?

CAB DRIVERS on the late night beat report a new menace—female muggers . . . Comedian Mort Sahl is suffering acutely from a batch of woes that must make it hard for him to be funny. His Broadway show, which flopped, cost

him close to \$20,000, and Uncle Sam is pressing hard for two years' back taxes. One of his associates appears to be guilty engaged in a of mismanagement of funds, major price war. Even long-established outfitts are cutting

their fees crazily, with some \$20,000 from it. She's a young offering their girl, Beverly Ross . . . Gross services to singer's new five-story building agents and will be madly patriotic in managers for a feeling—as well as luxurious. (Item: the million-dollar indoor swimming pool connect-

ed with it is the official Olympic size). Decorator Renny Saltzman is doing all the rooms in red, white and blue.

THE FRENCH film "The Snow Is Black," which was banned by the Chicago Police

Censor Board, finally has received permission to open with an "adults only" policy. It's the first flicker dealing with prostitution to be okayed in the Windy City.

It's been 15 years since the Lunts, Katharine Cornell and Helen Hayes were gracing the Broadway boards at the same time. During the 1942-1943 theatrical season, they were starring, respectively, in "The Pirate," "Three Sisters" and "Harriet" . . . Night-club comedians say the current woes afflicting the Nation's economy haven't depressed the customers' sense of humor. They get their biggest laughs with jokes about the "recession."

Tolson  
Bardman  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Nease  
Persons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

He  
etc

Wash. Post and A22  
Times Herald  
Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Herald Tribune  
N. Y. Journal-American  
N. Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Times \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

94-51223-4

ENCLOSURE

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: May 26, 1958

FROM : G. A. NEASE

*2nd  
answ*

SUBJECT:

The Broadway comedian Morton Sahl has, on occasions in the past, taken some severe cracks at the Director and the Bureau, as well as the President and the Vice President.

Tolson	_____
Nichols	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

I thought you would be interested in reading ~~Jack O'Brian's~~ column of last Friday, May 23, which tears Sahl apart and certainly aptly tags him for his soreheadedness. This column appeared in the "Northern Virginia Sun."

*A**✓*

Enclosure

cc-Mr. Jones  
 JJM:jmr  
 (3)

*✓*  
*ENCLOSURE*  
*52 JUN 3 1958*

REC-84

1094-51228-5

MAY 28 1958

EX-535

*GRIMM REC.*

## Jack O'Brian



### Critic Critical Of News Critic

NEW YORK (INS) — George Gobel's last show of the season droned away in so-so style.

Gobel, too, sank to the Trujillo-Venezuela topicality, whose only resemblance to the treasured old brand of Will Rogers political impudence is in swinging jokes at a current event. Only this way the jokes are swung by the neck . . .

There was real and wise comic spirit in Will Rogers, not just shallow gag-writing . . .

Mort Sahl tried again on the "Tonight" show (which sure needs Jack Paar more than ever) and proved he is not so much an angry young man as resentful, probably of his lack of true comic spirit . . .

Used to be a radio gent in our hometown of Buffalo named Joe Wesp, whose approach to the news was sort of detached and wise and the tone of his voice made his analysis of the news exactly what he was called: "The Ironic Reporter" . . .

There also was a fine old gent in our home burg by the name of John D. Wells, another wise and ironically gentle man who took an amused spectator's attitude toward the news, and knew how to have fun with it . . .

His most devastatingly cruel shaft was aimed at a popular crooner of his radiocasting day, about whom John D. Wells waxed sadly: "There was a plot today to kidnap Rudy Vallee, but some darned fool circumvented it."

\* \* \*

OF COURSE, the Mort Sahls seek their targets in geopolitics.

It's always a cinch Sahl will have something harshly impertinent to garble about Ike or Nixon or John Edgar Hoover which Sahl likes to think proves courage, and we do not mean just selecting such Washington folk as

targets, for they are prominent and therefore open to humor and wit . . .

Precisely why NBC sought Mort Sahl as its voice of modern wit or humor in Sunday's "Wide, Wide World" telecast is slightly amusing . . .

His attitude is what is called "offbeat" but his reaction to almost everything is negative, or else he doesn't discuss it; and his absolutely-to-be anticipated comments on any subject make him a sort of comic reactionary who seldom leaves his chosen field of soreheadedness.

On the subject of using Nixon's misfortunes in South America as the peg to hang gags on, you somehow get the idea from the Sahls and others commenting purportedly humorously or wittily thereupon, that some degree of satisfaction should be taken out of the fact that the Vice-President of the United States was attacked . . .

The great old political wits—always Will Rogers must be mentioned as the show business example—did not use freedom of speech as a coverup for freedom of bad taste, poor judgment.

Bob Hope, for instance, is a gent with an Eisenhower-golfing joke always at the ready, and no one resents it . . . not if it's funny . . .

Sahl seems to urge his audience to admire him just for being a comedy delinquent, adult in his selection of topical targets, but juvenile in his taste and manner, please note.

Northern Virginia Sun  
Arlington, Virginia  
May 23, 1958

94-51823-5

ENCLOSURE

REC-25 9445046-188

June 26, 1958

PERSONAL

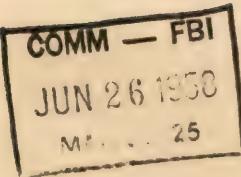
Honorable Irving R. Kaufman  
United States District Judge  
United States Court House  
Foley Square  
New York 7, New York

Dear Irving:

Thank you so much for your letter  
of June 20. I am delighted to know that you are so  
willing to come to our defense. In answer to your  
question, the name of the comedian is Mort Sahl.

With every good wish,

Cordially,  
Edgar



I-Mr. Tolson



M. J. Jones

REC'D-READING ROOM

F B I

REC'D-READING ROOM

F B I

JUN 26 1958  
REC'D-READING ROOM

F B I

REC'D-READING ROOM

NOTE: Inspector J. J. McGuire says the name of the comedian  
is Mort Sahl. Mort Sahl was written up in the April 21, 1958, issue of "TIME"  
as being a comedian who had made cracks about J. Edgar Hoover and  
the FBI. (Page 26, "TIME" magazine, April 21, 1958)

BMS:ogh

(4)

1

MAIL ROOM

188-18474-1  
OUR JIMMY

United States District Court  
United States Courthouse  
 Foley Square, New York 7

CHAMBERS OF  
JUDGE IRVING R. KAUFMAN

June 20, 1958

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. W. C. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Dear Edgar:

I, too, was so happy to visit with you and particularly to see you looking so well. My spirits always get a lift after I have been with you.

I was very much disturbed over the editorial in the New Hampshire Sunday News and I could not follow your admonition not to "bother General Sarnoff with this." In my opinion it is terribly important that he know of these things. As a result, I have taken it up with him and he was irritated and disturbed that such a thing could have happened on NBC and is taking immediate action to find the facts. I am sure you will hear from him before long.

194-51223

NOT RECORDED

You and I know that General Sarnoff is a great American and opposes with fervor Communists and Pro-Communists. As for myself, I am getting a little sick and tired of these snide remarks, supposedly humorous, heaping ridicule on the FBI and on you. I am familiar with this tactic and I know it for what it is. I have an idea who that "comedian" referred to in the editorial might be but I would like to be sure of it. Do you have his name? We must do something about this devious line of attack upon the FBI. These people

REC-25  
ENCLOSURE  
6/26/58 OML (SCL)  
(L.D.W.)  
BMS

CASE MADE IN TELE ROOM 6-22-58 2300

F: 108

REG-25 15 JUL 1958

194-4-5046188

4/RMS

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 94-4-5046-188

United States District Court  
Eastern District of New York  
Brooklyn, New York 11202

CHAMBERS OF  
JUDGE IRVING R. KAUFMAN

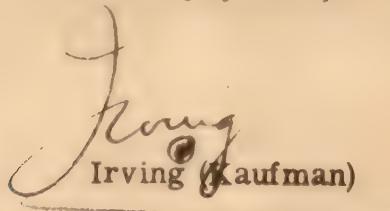
Page #1

are getting clever in that they believe that an attack of ridicule rather than a direct frontal attack is just as devastating. It spreads disrespect for the law by causing people to laugh at the FBI - the greatest law enforcement agency the world has ever known.

I certainly would like to talk with you about this a little more fully because it is a problem which has to be met and I do believe it will be recurrent.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Irving Kaufman

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau  
of Investigation  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D.C.

F B I

Date: 5/23/58

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Nease
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Clayton
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, NEW YORK  
 SUBJECT: MORT SAHL  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING

*M.H. Jones  
mso/jar*

Information received that MORT SAHL will appear on Dave Garroway's show, Sunday, May 25, next. This apparently refers to the "Wide Wide World" program on NEC.

NYO will monitor this program and advise the Bureau of any pertinent comments made by SAHL concerning the Bureau.

*A*  
POWERS

REC-78

EW 117

94-51923-6

11 MAY 27 1958

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Program monitored 5/25/58,  
 no mention of Shostak  
 or Bureau. HJZ

③ Bureau  
 1- New York

NHM:mel

(5)

*CRIME REQ*

Approved:

*E. J. Flynn*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nease

DATE: 8-22-58

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MORTON SAHL      B. APPROX.  
COMEDIAN AND NIGHT CLUB ENTERTAINER

The Director inquired for background information on Morton Sahl and whether or not we had written Judge Irving Kaufman concerning Sahl.

Sahl was the star of a musical comedy entitled "The Next President" which opened in New York City in April. In the show he mentioned the Director's book, "Masters of Deceit," and recommended the book to all since it had considerable merit in telling one how to turn your friends in to the FBI for fun and profit. An Agent from the New York Office attended the play and was impressed by the number of empty seats. The theater program stated that Sahl is 30 years old, a graduate of the University of Southern California and has written plays and short stories in addition to being a monologist. He became rather prominent playing in Bohemian-type night spots in San Francisco. He previously had appeared in Chicago and New York. At the time he was appearing two nights a week on the NBC's "Night Live" radio program. (94-51223-3)

It was learned during the middle of May that "The Next President," starring Sahl, had closed. (94-51223-4)

From time to time Sahl has taken cracks at the President as well as the Vice President. He appeared on Dave Garroway's show on May 25, however, he did not mention the Director or the Bureau. (94-51223-5 and 6)

Judge Irving Kaufman, by letter of July 1, 1958, forwarded to the Director a copy of a long letter which Mr. Robert W. Sarnoff of NBC had sent to Mr. William Loeb, newspaper publisher of Manchester, New Hampshire, concerning Sahl. Loeb's paper had previously run an editorial entitled "Sarnoff and the FBI" in its June 8 issue. This editorial pertained to the Jack Paar Show on which Sahl participated. Sahl did a skit depicting the fictitious capture of a Russian spy by the FBI in Greenwich Village. The skit was unfavorable to the FBI. REC-75 94-51223-7

Previously, on June 20, 1958, Judge Kaufman wrote the Director that he had complained to Mr. Sarnoff about the program and the Director would probably be hearing from Sarnoff. This letter was acknowledged on June 26, and Kaufman was told the Director was glad that he was so willing to come to the FBI's defense. Kaufman's

57 SEP 2 1958

MAJ:mrh (4) *mwh*

SENT DIRECTOR
8-23-58

CRIME BUREAU

*MWB*

M. A. Jones to Mr. Ne... Memorandum

letter of July 1 was acknowledged on July 8.. He was told that Sahl's humor in this instance "surely was in poor taste, to say the least." (94-4-5046-188 and 189)

The Director heard from Robert Sarnoff under date of June 30 concerning this same matter. He was thanked by communication of July 3. (77-17509-6)

Other references in Bufiles deal with Sahl's appearance in "The Next President" and his statement about "Masters of Deceit," *AS REFLECTED ABOVE:*

Based on identifying data no arrest record on Sahl was located in the files of the Identification Division. Two Army fingerprint cards, one civil service card and two applicant cards on one Morton Lyon Sahl were located. These showed he was born on May 11, 1927 in Montreal, Canada; was a Private in the enlisted reserve corps in Los Angeles, California, on May 18, 1944, and was inducted into the Army as a Private at Los Angeles in August 22, 1944, serial number 39598404. The civil service prints were the last received. These concerned an application for position of substitute carrier in South Gate, California, and showed his residence as 8625 State Street, South Gate, California. This was received on May 1, 1951.

Kaufman correspondence attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

JM

Sahl is still at big  
indicting of Eisenhower  
& Nixon & praising of  
Stevenson. I heard  
him on the Pearl show  
a few nights ago.

L

## Jack O'Brian's TVIEWS

# Charlie's Mail Must Go Thru!



Jack O'Brian  
Especially in a show traditionally desperate for good jokes . . . Barbara Heller was very funny . . . Ben Blue wasn't; and he seemed to resent Paar . . . Jack called his midnight frolic "cheap" but we can't agree; "inexpensive" is the far better description . . . True test of a comic is sincere laughter from another and Charlie Weaver made Hope howl . . . Oscar Levant with Jack tomorrow night . . . Jack Paar told us he is mad at a glib press agent who got Paar to plug a new car on the promise the car company would buy a flock of commercials . . . The car bought exactly ONE one-minute spot spiel.

BRITISH TV HAS A "21" PROBLEM over there: London contestant Stanley Armstrong advised the network and the British Attorney General that he'd been fed tips on queries . . . There's a big rumor around that the quiz-fix fracas will have a perjury indictment from the grand jury . . . With regular network radio flailing, there's talk of an FM (Frequency Modulation) radio skein . . . Nat King Cole will be Roy Campanella's radio guest tomorrow night . . . Ch. 7's election coverage tonight will be a razor safe for losing candidates—an electric job.

BISHOP SHEEN WILL BE ON Ch. 11 tonight at 7:15 "live" to talk about Pope John XXIII . . . Ch. 2's premiere tonight is "The Invisible Man," good election night title . . . "Cimarron City" is miles better than its TV ratings, which should grow . . . Florence Lusting, who designed some of TV's tastiest togs for miladies of the lens for years, discovered when she moved to Palm Beach no one there cared about or had seen TV costume credits—not even Jane Froman's. Miss Lusting's prizewinning threads . . . She had to go back to newspaper advertising.



JUNE LOCKHART  
Sought for Role.

53 NOV 19 1958 43

Tolson ✓  
Belmont ✓  
Mohr ✓  
Nease ✓  
Parsons ✓  
Rosen ✓  
Tamm ✓  
Trotter ✓  
W.C. Sullivan ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Holloman ✓  
Gandy ✓

✓ Hy Averbach  
✓ Jerry

V

194-51223-A-  
NOT RECORDED  
133 NOV 17 1958

Wash. Post and \_\_\_\_\_  
Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Journal-<sup>14</sup> American \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Times \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Date NOV 4 1958

See Page 2

DESILU PLAYHOUSE LAST 10 to 11 was a well-produced cliche . . . Eli Wallach played it with one extended scowl . . . Adrian Spies, its author, also wrote last night's ALCOA Theatre; both dramas were modern-dress Greek tragedies, unleavened misery . . . With clumsy, obvious morals you could see being jerry-built from their sluggish starts . . . We switched over to see some cute, funny, adorable kids dancing on NBC-TV's Kathryn Murray party . . . "Highway Patrol" was another good, fast, crisp cliche . . . Win Elliot started reading the wrong question; later tried to give out a prize for half a right answer on "Tic Tac Dull."

PLAYHOUSE 90 WANTS June Lockhart to narrate Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite" as its Christmas Week spec . . . Danny Thomas had an especially good one last night . . . You get very few cowboys killing Indians in our new enlightened social scheme: an Indian killed his brother on "Wells Fargo" last night, fratricide on TV being considered nicer than genocide . . . Anyone worrying where Renzo Cesana went after he drowned in his own TV goo—he went thataway to Rome, where he's in the new Mario Lanza movie.

Canadian TV folk want Leslie Nielsen to star in Marilyn Monroe's husband's "Death of a Salesman" . . . Fred Astaire's next TV leading lassie (on Gen'l Electric Theatre) will be Roxanne Berard . . . The L.A. Dodgers have their TV sponsors all set for next season already: Beer and ciggie firms, f cawss . . . Jack Albertson gets a regular role in "The Thin Man." . . . Ed Kenny, Hawaiian lad who got nice notices in Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Flower Drum Song" in Boston must be good—Ed. Sullivan snapped him up for two Sunday night TV solos, first in Feb. . . . "The D.A.'s Man," by our J-A flash "Red" Horan, starts TV film shooting here in N. Y. for a month; it's due on NBC after Jan. 1 . . . Jack Webb producing.

FELLOW GAVE AN imitation of "avant" comedian Mort

Carried a Trendex rating of 24.9 to Welk's 16.3 . . . Sammy Kaye sliced the edge off Gun-smoke, not enough to beat it of course, but to nudge it off its old unopposed rating peak . . . Sid Caesar's Trendex was a neat 25.3, winning all honors Although "What's My Line" got Sunday night's top Trendex —26.3.

"Maverick" got a 24.3 to Sullivan's 19.2 and Allen's consistently third place 14.5 . . . Once "Maverick" was off the air, Sullivan & Allen used to

whack up a respectable rating, but not since "Lawman," another Warner Bros. bullseye, won Trendex as witness to its 19.4 rating, edging Sullivan (19.2) and Allen (17.9) . . . The Sullivan-Allen tug of bore had Sullivan leading Allen 19.2 to 16.2 for their full 60 competing minutes . . . Loretta Young danced all over the \$64,000 Q. again 24.4 to 15.9.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: February 10, 1959

FROM : M. A. Jones

Tolson  
 Belmont  
 DeLoach  
 McGuire  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: MORT SAHL

Reference is made to the attached clipping from the "New York Times" article of February 8, 1959, on Mort Sahl, the comedian, in which it is mentioned that Sahl was born in Montreal, an only child, and that his father was an administrative officer for the United States Department of Justice. The Director noted: "See if Department has any such record."

File 77-7613 reflects that a Harry Sahl was investigated in 1934 as an applicant for the Department of Justice. This investigation reflected that Harry Sahl had one child (name not given) and that he had lived in the Los Angeles area. (It is noted that the "New York Times" article indicated that Mort Sahl's family had traveled over the country settling in Los Angeles.) This file further indicated that Harry Sahl had family connections in Montreal, Canada. It also reflected that Harry Sahl was in business in Montreal in the wholesaling and retailing of cigars from 1926 to 1931. (Mort Sahl was born in Montreal, May 11, 1927.) Harry Sahl, according to the Bureau's investigation, was primarily trained as an expert stenographer.

Contact at the Department of Justice reflected that the personnel file of Harry Sahl was presently in the Government's Archives in St. Louis, Missouri. However, a personnel service card reflected that Harry Sahl entered on duty with the Department 7-19-34, terminating employment 5-12-37. He was rehired 8-6-37 terminating 4-2-40. He was hired as a clerk and stenographer. He left the Department of Justice to go to the Commerce Department. Harry Sahl was born 8-30-92 (location not specific). No further data concerning Harry Sahl was available in Justice records.

REG-60

94-51223-7

It would appear that the Harry Sahl subject of Bureau file 77-7613 is the father of Mort Sahl. This would indicate that he did work for the Department of Justice from roughly 1934 to 1940 as a clerk and stenographer. However, we have not been able to definitely determine whether this Harry Sahl is positively the father of Mort Sahl.

B FEB 17 1959

The New York Office has been requested to discreetly determine the identity of Mort Sahl's father. When this information is received, I will promptly furnish it to the Director.

ENCLOSURE  
RECOMMENDATION:

51 Enclosure 1959 For information.  
FCS:sfc (5)

nothing further need be done. X,  
CRIME REC.

# Anyway, Onward With Mort Sahl

**A nonstop talker from out of the West finds that iconoclasm mixed with comedy pays.**

By HERBERT MITGANG

**B**EVERLY HILLS, Calif. FROM out of California these days comes a fresh voice in response to the lament that American humor is restricted by conformity, censorship or just old jokes. It belongs to Mort Sahl, a 31-year-old who began his comedy life only five years ago at a San Francisco below-ground night club called, without capitals, the "hungry i" (for "intellectual").

"I think of him as the Happy Worrier," says Jerry Wald, his producer. "He is brilliant, incisive and churned by inner conflicts. He is the voice of mankind in the atomic age. When he says he doesn't know whether the approaching unidentified aircraft is going to drop a hydrogen bomb or spell out Pepsi-Cola in skywriting, he speaks for all of us."

This is a big Mort Sahl month. His second record—"Look Forward in Anger"—was released nationally last week (the first was called "The Future Lies Ahead"). There was a television guest appearance on the "Eddie Fisher Show," and there will be another next Sunday when he will help to inaugurate a new TV series, "Richard Diamond, Private Detective," by playing himself in a night club where a murder takes place. He expects to sign

a contract for his own network program, possibly this month.

Then, all during March, Sahl will play the Flamingo in Las Vegas, with ten weeks in Los Angeles at the Crescendo, one of his strongholds, to follow. In between, he will make a movie, "The Billionaire," in which, he insists, he will not play the title role. He is already being seen in a featured role in Twentieth Century-Fox's "In Love and War," for which he wrote his own lines (including his memorable answer to a field-telephone call in the middle of a bombardment: "Hello, World War II").

This fall he expects to bring his act (himself and one prop, a rolled-up newspaper) to one of the clubs in New York. "But not," he insists, "one of those exclusive little East Side rooms where everyone is so in they're out."

**A**T this stage of his growing career, Sahl's comments cover the whole range of human experience—from the status quo to status symbols, from lost souls in particular to the cockeyed world in general. He thrives on that dirty word—controversy. His admirers place him in the American vein of humor running from Mark Twain to Fred Allen; his detractors say he is not a comedian in the true sense but simply a writer who talks, and talks (as well as his material) is controversial.

Tolson   
 Belmont   
 DeLoach   
 McGuire   
 Mohr   
 Parsons   
 Rosen   
 Tamm   
 Trotter   
 W.C. Sullivan   
~~Tele Room~~   
 Holloman   
 Gandy

K  
See p. 2

EX 105  
REC-60  
94-51223-1442  
**ENCLOSURE**  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
FEB 8 1959  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
Date FEB 8 1959  
2/10/59  
New York 2nd  
2/10/59

Sahl differs from the traditional run-of-mouth comedian in a number of respects. First, he writes his own stuff. Second, although the material has been written, Sahl does not stick to his own script but "free associates"—leaping from subject to subject, improvising as his mood, the audience and the daily news affect his thinking on the platform. Third, he does not grimace, make jokes with the orchestra leader or wear funny hats. His act is, in a word, cerebral.

Some in his audiences are unimpressed by what he has to say and the way he says it. They assert they want their comedians to make jokes, not to remind them of their troubles. A few of the old-time professionals say that because Sahl never went through the rough apprenticeship of burlesque, summer resorts or third-string night clubs, he is unable to sell himself to all sorts of people night after night. "I saw Sammy Davis at Vegas a couple nights ago," said a Hollywood director, "and he got up there, rolled around the floor, jumped and sang until he socked those dice players between the eyes. Could Sahl do that?" And sometimes (not often) Sahl is heckled by political partisans who disagree with his comments. "The real bigots don't oust with me," Sahl says. "They just ell to get off the stage."

But Sahl's detractors are outvoiced

by those who think that his irreverent wit and uncensored quality are what American comedy needs today. An interesting fact about Sahl's supporters is that they seem to feel they've joined an underground movement. Members of the Mort Sahl *maquis*, among those on record, include Adlai Stevenson, Lillian Hellman, Marlon Brando, Steve Allen, fellow-alumni of the University of California, progressive jazz fans and habitués of intimate night clubs the country over.

**S**AHL is now hell-bent on proving a point about himself and the intelligence of American audiences. He discussed that point with a recent visitor in his rented house a couple of blocks off the Strip in Beverly Hills (the house is filled with the flotsam of the itinerant intellectual: the exposed parts of a hi-fi system, classical records and books).

The point very simply is that he wants to enter the great entertainment market places of the American public. Not necessarily because they pay more there (he is reported to earn about \$5,000 a week right now), but because he is trying to break the notion that the American public is divided into "ins" and "outs": those who can be reached with "creative" material of a special kind, and those who must be catered to with (*Continued on Page 32*)

(Continued from Page 32)

"commercial" material. He refuses to talk down in his effort to reach out. "It's a crusade," he says, "to gain respect for American audiences as much as for myself."

Sahl is a dark-haired man of medium height, aggressively virile, who does not look like a performer; the curtain doesn't seem to be up all the time with him. (Yet the things he says in private conversation are a continuation of what he says on stage.) His casual manner and dress (a sweater and no tie) mark him as a man of independence. He appears happier than the cynical creases in his face indicate: bright and not at all angry, certainly not beat. The alert look in his eyes seems to declare that he is bearing up in an imperfect time.

Talking a blue streak, which is his way, Sahl recalled his start in show business. He admitted that some of his references at first had been heavy-handed. "I'd had twenty-five years of not being heard and it all poured out," he said. But, slowly, his underground grew.

**O**NE important person who spread Sahl's name along the West Coast was Herb Caen, The San Francisco Chronicle columnist. Caen described Sahl's style pungently: "He was like a jazz musician playing a chorus, toying with phrases, following the melody and suddenly losing it, trying for high notes that sometimes splattered." Eventually, Sahl learned to get a "beat" going in his talks.

To see what Sahl's style is like, the visitor watched him through two consecutive shows one night at the Crescendo. The spotlight picked him out in a yellow cashmere sweater and white shirt, tieless, carrying a newspaper. Behind him the green and white lights of Los Angeles twinkled through an oversized picture window. In front of him passed a ubiquitous blond night-club photographer.

"Hello," he said, smiling, "I see there's someone here from the F. B. I.



to photograph me. So we're all set. I have here a Republican paper from Los Angeles. But that's redundant. I haven't got too many jokes, just little lectures. Before the last election, our illustrious Senator, Knowland or something like that, helped President Eisenhower to send over ninety million dollars to the Formosa beachhead. At the same time the President vetoed the school bill over

here—spenders, you know. Of course, before Chiang got his money, he had to promise he wouldn't use any of it for schools.

"It's smoky here. Fallout. Anyway, onward.

"I'm in the movies now, playing this marine. I get shot in the back—either the enemy was unethical or we were retreating. You have to interpret this for yourself. I'm dying, and in the back-



ground Johnny Mathis is singing. The chaplain bends over me and, if you look closely, he's wearing a Zen Buddhist emblem. I think Hollywood must have a grudge against the Japanese. They keep making the same movie, again and again. You know, the one with the old newsreel shots of MacArthur walking through the water and getting his pants wet. I understand that he had planned to walk *on* the water, but Truman interfered.

"Right? Right. We're fully integrated in our talk tonight."

On and on Sahl goes, his machine-gun mind splaying ideas of various calibers all through the audience for forty minutes. He mentions the post-Bohemians who sit on the floor and "make friends," who don't live in mere rooms but in "living areas." He kids the 15-year-old beatniks he meets in coffee houses who declare, "The Western religions have failed me." He needles the tough Los Angeles cops and tells how he jams their radar "by putting tinfoil in my hubcaps."

**H**E says there are no women in the beat generation—"just girls who have broken with their parents for the evening." That the people driving those \$8,000 Dual-Ghias are not "just anybody—they're Beverly Hills doctors." That speaking of doctors, the best thing about psychoanalysts is that if you don't make it with one he'll refer you to a friend—"they call it rehabilitation referral motivation therapy, and we call it fee-splitting."

Finally, he says that nothing he has said is "factual, only truthful." When the audience applauds, he says modestly, "I'm not geared to total acceptance." And he ends by saying, "Are there any groups left I haven't offended? Good. Next show I'll use The Christian Science Monitor. Now let's all join hands and sing folk songs."

After one midnight in Beverly Hills,  
(Continued on Page 37)

(Continued from Page 34)  
Sahl strolled down Sunset Boulevard and dropped into one of the dozen espresso places on the Strip, Chez Paullette. In his clean sweater, he looked positively chic, compared with the sweatshirt boys in desert boots and the aspiring young actresses encased in white make-up and black stockings. Yet he felt at home there because the atmosphere reminded him of the North Beach spots in his favorite city, San Francisco, where he hopes to settle some day, married to a nice bright girl—one not unlike his friend Phyllis Kirk, the actress who plays the wife in "The Thin Man" on television.

**R**ELAXED, he filled in the background for his iconoclastic thinking. He was born in Montreal, an only child. His father, an administrative officer for the United States Department of Justice, took the family all over the country, settling in Los Angeles. There Mort went to high school and took R. O. T. C. training. Joining the Army Air Forces, he became a crew chief on a portable oxygen generator (*Fogo*), rising to the rank of Pfc.

It was while in the Army in the Aleutians, that, he said, "I suddenly got the message. I matured in that idealistic time in the Nineteen Forties when Franklin Roosevelt was President, there was a war on against Nazi Germany, and the Democratic party's social philosophy reigned. All these had an effect—probably still do—on my thinking." He reads as much as he can about F. D. R., whom he describes, simply, as "a good man."

Some of Sahl's friends say that last November's Democratic victory knocked down some of his main targets, that his voice of a minority now speaks for a majority. But Sahl is a satirist who seeks out sham, regardless of the political party in power or the cultural powers that be.

**G**ETTING his beat, Sahl discussed this unfailing source of material, his words flying over the cups of cold espresso: "For five years I've advocated this criminal act of overthrowing the Government and putting in the Democrats. Wait a minute—what Democrats? Harry Byrd, James Byrnes, Orval Faubus? There's plenty to talk about. Like the fact that we're looking for real estate in Asia to create our own China—a third force, with Harold Stassen as its President. And there was this jazz festival when Dave Brubeck was touring. He followed after Dulles and Nixon—and made up with people. He was big with the Arab League. They asked some of the Negroes in the band questions. Like, 'How did you get to be a big musician?' And this fellow answered, 'Well, I always wanted to be a doctor but when they closed down my segregated school I had to join this jazz band.' Anyway, onward.

See if Dupd has  
any such record.  
X.



**SAHL ON SAHL**—"I had twenty-five years of not being heard, and it all poured out."



"What I'm doing is a crusade to gain respect for American audiences as much as for myself."



"I haven't got too many jokes, just little lectures. Are there any groups I haven't offended?"

## Office Memo.andum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: June 8, 1959

FROM : J. J. McGuire

SUBJECT: MORTON SAHL

Tolson   
 Belmont   
 DeLoach   
 McGuire   
 Mohr   
 Parsons   
 Rosen   
 Tamm   
 Trotter   
 W.C. Sullivan   
 Tele. Room   
 Holloman   
 Gandy

*SEARCH APPNCE 17327**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED*

Miss Loie Gaunt in the office of Vice President Nixon advised me that Mr. Nixon had heard that the entertainer and comedian Morton Sahl might have a background that was somewhat questionable and, accordingly, the Vice President asked for a background memorandum on Sahl. Miss Gaunt said it could be mailed up to the office as the Vice President did not need it until the middle of the week sometime. She was advised that this would be taken care of.

Mr. Sizoo in the Domestic Intelligence Division was informed and advised that the Special Memoranda Unit of that Division would handle the matter immediately.

1-Mr. Belmont  
 1-Mr. Sizoo  
 1-Mr. J. W. Brown, Room 6125 IB

JJM:jmr  
(5)

RECEIVED - 1959

REG- 92

71-51223-9

JUN 16 1959

EX-136

*Let to Nixon 6-10-59  
 C.H.S./hba  
 name check JPS*

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Name Check Section

REG-92

74-51223-9

EX-136

June 10, 1959

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable Richard M. Nixon  
The Vice President  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dick:

In accordance with the request of Miss Gaunt of your office on June 8, 1959, I have had the files of this Bureau reviewed concerning Morton Sahl, the entertainer. This review revealed that the FBI has not conducted an investigation concerning Sahl; however, our files do contain the following information concerning him.

"The New York Times" magazine of February 8, 1959, carried a feature article concerning Sahl which indicated he was thirty-one years of age, having been born in Montreal, Canada, and his family eventually settled in Los Angeles, California, where he attended high school. He reportedly served in the Armed Forces having been stationed in the Aleutians. Sahl began his entertaining career five years ago in San Francisco, California, and has appeared in night clubs throughout the United States; has made several appearances on various television programs, as well as appearing in a New York theater production which had only a short run.

Sahl was quoted in this article as stating, "I matured in that idealistic time in the Nineteen Forties when Franklin Roosevelt was President, there was a war on against Nazi Germany, and the Democratic party's social philosophy reigned. All these had an effect - probably still do - on my thinking."

*700 a 3 JUN 19 1959*  
**NOTE:** Sahl is a so-called comedian who appeared in the "musical comedy" entitled "The Next President," which had a short life in New York. During this show, he commented on the Director's book "Masters of Deceit" describing it "how to turn your friends in to the FBI for fun and profit." He has consistently ridiculed the President, Vice President, former Secretary of State Dulles.

Re: Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. \_\_\_\_\_

BY COURIER SVC.  
COMM-FBI

12 JUN 10

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62 JUN 10 1959

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*Re Mar HAN*

Honorable Richard M. Nixon

The "Northern Virginia Sun" of May 23, 1958, carried a column by Jack O'Brian which was devoted to Sahl and it is believed the following comments of O'Brian may be of interest.

"It's always a cinch Sahl will have something harshly impertinent to garble about Ike or Nixon or John Edgar Hoover which Sahl likes to think proves courage, and we do not mean just selecting such Washington folk as targets, for they are prominent and therefore open to humor and wit..."

"His attitude is what is called 'offbeat' but his reaction to almost everything is negative, or else he doesn't discuss it; and his absolutely-to-be anticipated comments on any subject make him a sort of comic reactionary who seldom leaves his chosen field of soreheadedness."

"On the subject of using Nixon's misfortunes in South America as the peg to hang gags on, you somehow get the idea from the Sahls and others commenting purportedly humorously or wittily thereupon, that some degree of satisfaction should be taken out of the fact that the Vice-President of the United States was attacked..."

"Sahl seems to urge his audience to admire him just for being a comedy delinquent, adult in his selection of topical targets, but juvenile in his taste and manner, please note." (94-51223)

Two individuals, who have furnished reliable information in the past concerning Communist Party activities, have expressed the opinion that individuals such as Sahl can do a great deal more damage to the American self-confidence in a few sharply barbed witticisms than could be done by all the "ravings and rantings of a dozen Fosters, Brothers, Lovestones, etc., in the course of fifteen or twenty years." As an example, they stated that once the average young American facing induction into the Army gets the general point of view that the Army is run by a bunch of "bubbling idiots" or

Honorable Richard M. Nixon

that the military apparatus is incapable of doing anything for him or his country, the basic damage has been done and whether logical arguments can be brought to bear in defense of the criticism thus rendered is a relatively pointless question. (100-3-69-6350 p. 6)

Sincerely,

EDGAR

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## *Memorandum*

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 3-17-60

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MORTON SAHL  
COMEDIAN AND  
NIGHT CLUB ENTERTAINER

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Wheeler, Ivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Sahl was the star in a musical comedy entitled "The Next President" which opened in New York in April, 1958. In the show he mentioned the Director's book, "Masters of Deceit," and recommended the book for everyone since it had considerable merit in telling one how to turn your friends in to the FBI for fun and profit. Since that time he has been on numerous TV shows. His usual presentation consists of taking "cracks" at prominent individuals such as the President, Vice President and Mr. Hoover.

Bufiles reflect several indignant letters from individuals who wrote to the Bureau expressing their dislike of Sahl's snide and supposedly humorous remarks.

Attached is a clipping from The Hollywood Reporter, Hollywood, California, dated March 8, 1960.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**None. For information.**

**Enclosure**

1 - Mr. DeLoach

JMR:td  
(4)

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

REF-

EX 109

112

24 MAR 22 1960

24 MAR 22 1960

ENCLOSURE

62 MAR 25 1960

99-51223-10

# "THIS IS MORT SAHL"

AN EDITORIAL FROM  
THE WAUKEGAN NEWS-SUN . . .

## Sick?

Mort Sahl — the so-called "sick" comedian — brought the house tumbling down the other night at the 75th annual meeting of the Inland Daily Press Assn. in Chicago.

It was our first chance to see this fast-rising comic perform in person. We liked him immensely — in spite of the fact that more than a few of his verbal darts about the foibles of the newspaper business smacked home (it didn't hurt when we laughed).

His penetrating insight into social and political issues and finely-honed wit make a delightfully devastating combination.

Take his crack about Chicago's introverted children



Act created by DEAN ELLIOTT and  
JON GREGORY

HOTEL, MIAMI.  
Just concluded 2 weeks EDEN ROCK

VARETY

CINCI.

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER  
Hollywood, California  
March 8, 1960

Douglas De Mille  
3/17/60

94-E1233-10

# "THIS IS MORT SAHL"

AN EDITORIAL FROM  
THE WAUKEGAN NEWS-SUN . . .

## Sick?

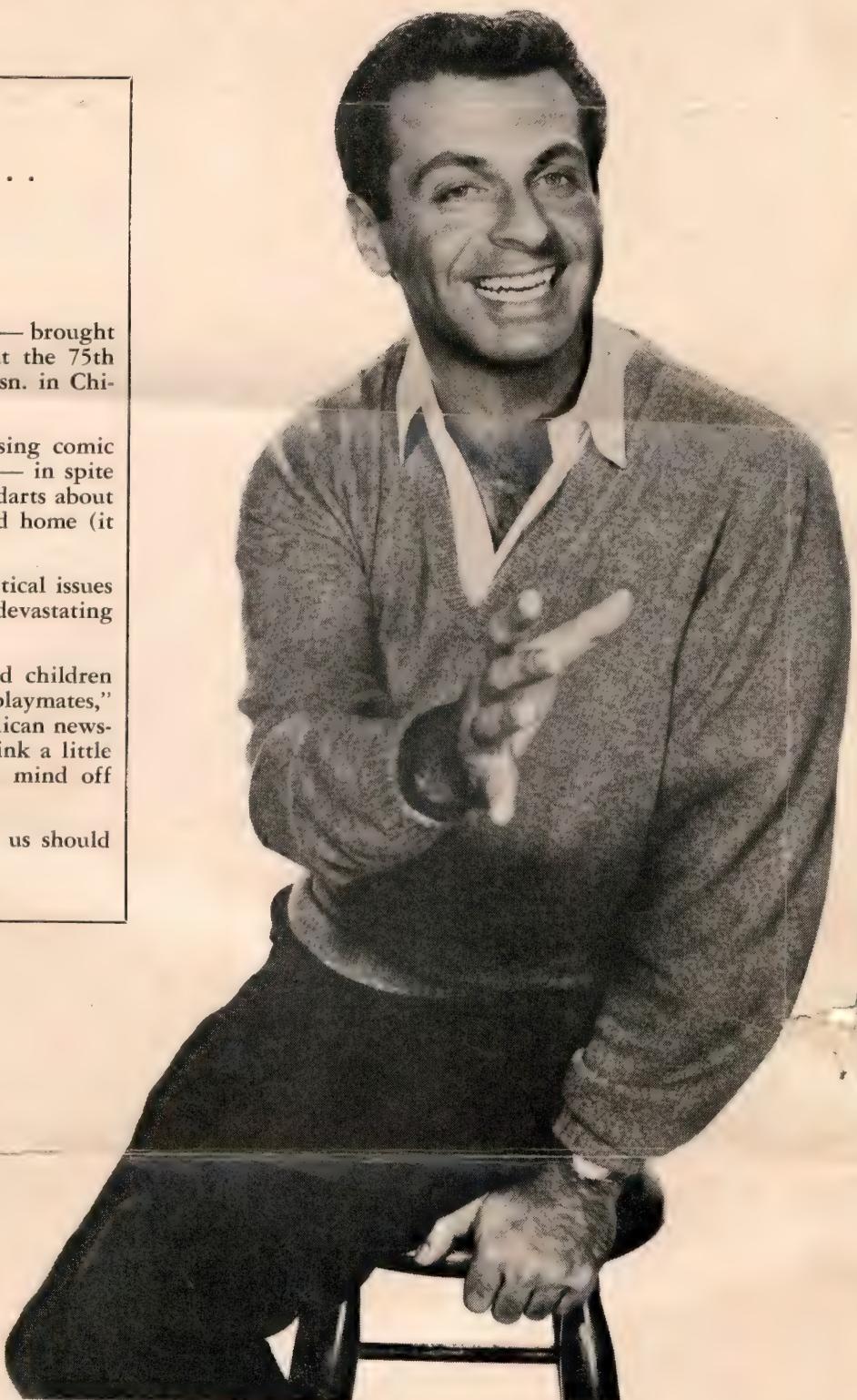
Mort Sahl — the so-called "sick" comedian — brought the house tumbling down the other night at the 75th annual meeting of the Inland Daily Press Assn. in Chicago.

It was our first chance to see this fast-rising comic perform in person. We liked him immensely — in spite of the fact that more than a few of his verbal darts about the foibles of the newspaper business smacked home (it didn't hurt when we laughed).

His penetrating insight into social and political issues and finely-honed wit make a delightfully devastating combination.

Take his crack about Chicago's introverted children "who can now play cops and robbers without playmates," or his wry observation that the phrase "Republican newspapers sounds redundant," or his advice to think a little more about the H-Bomb "to help take your mind off birth control."

If this man is "sick," then a few more of us should be lucky enough to contract his ailment.



"There is an Inn on E. 60th St. known as Copacabana and its walls today are still vibrating from the laughs given comedian Mort Sahl in his new nightclub show . . ."

— N.Y. World-Telegram

"Mort Sahl is an authentic genius . . ."

— Max Shulman

"Mort Sahl may well be the greatest comedian in the world today . . ."

— Cue Magazine

# The Not-So-Sick Comics

A POST SERIES by Irwin Ross

**L**AST DECEMBER the Democratic Party's Advisory Council held a fund-raising dinner at the Waldorf in honor of Eleanor Roosevelt.

Every Democratic Presidential hopeful except Lyndon Johnson addressed the throng, as did Harry Truman and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Also on display, for better than 20 minutes, was the man billed in nightclubs as "The Next President"—comedian Mort Sahl. Few in the audience regarded Sahl's presence as incongruous.

Sahl is hardly the first comedian to use political cracks, but he is probably unique in plugging a consistent political line. His heaviest barrages are directed at the Republicans, with only an occasional pop-gun shot against some Democratic foible. He gleefully belabors Eisenhower, Nixon, Ezra Benson, J. Edgar Hoover, the ghost of McCarthy.

He is a fierce, if rather elliptic, critic of our Far Eastern policy and he seldom lets his audiences forget the dangers of atomic fallout. His followers regard him as an irrepressible crusader in the guise of a comic; one gathers that this is not far from Sahl's own view of himself.

Asked recently to characterize his politics, Sahl replied with a solemnity only faintly touched by self-mockery. "I'm trying to evolve a liberalism that will work for my time." He did not smile.

On the nightclub floor, there is no solemnity in his quick thrusts:

Q "The paperback version of J. Edgar Hoover's book, 'Masters of Deceit,' is called 'How to Turn Your Friends In to the FBI for Fun and Profit.'"

Q "I am going to remind you to see 'On the Beach.' It's an escapist film—it'll take your mind off the birth control issue."

Q "President Eisenhower was taking seriously this new dynamic leadership—because he had been completely in charge when Nixon was out of the country."

Q "Shelley Berman says I talk about overthrowing the government—if I can find it."

Tolson ✓  
 Mohr ✓  
 Parsons ✓  
 Belmont ✓  
 Callahan ✓  
 DeLoach ✓  
 Malone ✓  
 McGuire ✓  
 Rosen ✓  
 Tamm ✓  
 Trotter ✓  
 W.C. Sullivan ✓  
 Tele. Room ✓  
 Ingram ✓  
 Gandy ✓

V  
 File 87  
 7/10

The Washington Post and \_\_\_\_\_  
 Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post 47 \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

MAY 10 1960

94-51223-4  
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 46 MAY 19 1960

13 MAY 19 1960

## 'No Guts'

To an inquiring reporter, Sahl maintains that politics is not his principal interest. He is equally preoccupied with manners and morals, the arts, hi-fi, sports cars. These subjects provide the substance for intermittent satire, but Sahl's act is basically a disenchanted commentary on the events of the day.

Looking mildly disheveled in an open-neck shirt and a pullover sweater, Sahl never steps out of character, enacts out a skit or even mimics one of the public figures he is assailing. He has a good ear, however, and once on the Steve Allen show did an excellent impersonation of Ailen. In his own act, however, he "panics out" when he thinks of doing an impersonation. "No guts," says Sahl. "I'm as shy as the next guy."

His act, which runs around 50 minutes, consists of a disconnected series of comments, delivered in nervous, rapid-fire bursts, with no more than a "Gives you something to think about, doesn't it?" or "Enough of that, so where were we?" to serve as a transition. Occasionally, he will suggest, "To get back to our theme," but the theme, if any, is no more than a thin thread which vanishes when another random thought occurs to him. "I can free-associate about anything," says Sahl.

It is a mistake, he feels, to plan his routine ahead of time: he is better if he responds spontaneously to the "cadence" of the audience. While each act is improvised on the spot, it is not exactly created out of thin air. He holds in reserve any number of verbal fragments, piecing them together as the mood strikes him. He frequently adds to his supply of quips, but as frequently repeats his favorite lines.

Recently, he has introduced a more personal—and often self-deprecating—note into his comments. "I can intellectualize anything and make it dull—that's my gift," he will say to vast laughter, or he will allude to his amorous misadventures somehow managing to combine politics and romance: "I once proposed to a girl by quoting Fidel Castro."

Sahl is little different offstage than on. Between the acts, before heading for his favorite espresso bar, he insists on changing his "uniform"—only to reappear in another sweater, still tieless. He is well-

mannered and affable, but his stock response is a quip when the interviewer seeks information.

He becomes defensive only when asked why he does not satirize the Russians. "Almost nobody has challenged me on that," Sahl says. "The ones who've said that are usually humorless about the Russians." Basically, his reply was that no one should give

orders to an artist, which no one at the moment was trying to do. Moreover, it was his view that "regardless of the fire built by the American press, whenever I've kidded the Soviet boys and girls behind the barn comparing production norms, nobody laughs. Nobody gives a damn."

When he talks of the past, Sahl is bitter: "I never knew more cruelty than when I was trying to get into this business." Show business types derided his assumption that he could hold an audience just talking. Nonetheless, he persisted. "There's a margin between talent and success which I would define as fanaticism," he says.

His fanaticism emerged from a rather disorganized early life. Morton Lyon Sahl was born in Montreal on May 11, 1927. His father ran a tobacco shop there, later worked as a clerk for the Veterans Administration in Washington and traveled widely around the country in various government jobs. Sahl figures he attended 20 elementary schools.

The family eventually settled in California; Sahl was enrolled in three high schools around Los Angeles. He was no campus rebel, but the pride of the local ROTC; one year the American Legion named him best officer in the area. "I was nuts about the service and practically lived in a uniform," recalls a baffled Sahl. He enlisted in the Army when he was 16, only to be shipped home in a couple of weeks when his age was discovered.

He was an underweight, skinny youngster who

regularly practiced weight-lifting to build muscles. Girls were a problem. ("I was scared. I was non-aggressive. I panicked. God, was I scared!") He graduated from high school in 1944, again enlisted in the Army, becoming a drill instructor at Shepard Field, Texas. ("I was strictly the Gung-Ho type.") Later, as an M.P., he directed traffic at Williams Field, Arizona. ("That's why I use my hands so much in the act.")

By this time, Sahl was becoming disillusioned with the Army. ("Too much military injustice, and I found that conformity is the rule.") He put in for overseas duty and found himself at Elmendorf Field, Alaska. He began to write for the camp paper and contributed sketches to service shows.

He published one story about the sudden promotion of a private to staff sergeant, strongly suggesting that favoritism was involved. Sahl was roughly chewed out, then inexplicably made editor of the paper.Flushed with success, he later published an account of a grossly unfair court-martial—and found himself assigned to K.P. duty and other low chores.

In January, 1947, he was released from the Army, still a private.

He enrolled at Compton Junior College, later transferred to the University of Southern California. His major was city management and engineering, his minor mathematics, his avocational interests hot-rod cars, campus variety shows and a monthly magazine called *The Arts*. He made a near-A average in his courses and received his degree in 1950. Then came a graduate year studying municipal administration and an ill-fated venture in used cars.

## Up the Ladder

His entrepreneurial career was followed by a stretch as a messenger boy, which gave him enough money to sustain life and enough time to work on plays and a book. He finally decided to become a performer when he felt there was no outlet for his writing. ("I had to get into an animated form to win acceptance.") But it was not easy to animate before an audience: the nightclubs did not want him, either in Los Angeles nor in New York.

He moved to San Francisco, enrolled for some university courses, bummed around. Finally, in December, 1953, he landed a job at a club called the "Hungry i" at \$75 a week. He was an immediate success. He began by satirizing the movies and other innocuous subjects; as he gained confidence, he turned to politics. Sahl spent the better part of three years at the "Hungry i" from time to time doing a club date elsewhere.

As his reputation spread, he was signed by the Black Orchid in Chicago, the Blue Angel in New York, Storyville in Boston. In 1957, he was booked for two weeks at Mister Kelly's in Chicago, stayed for 23. By the end of the year, the Crescendo in Los Angeles was paying him \$5,000 a week. The following spring he came to New York in a review called "The Next President." Sahl got excellent notices, but the show flopped.

It was but a minor reversal in a continuing upward swing. He has three records out, has appeared frequently on television and is now planning to get into movie and TV production. His standard nightclub fee has gone up to \$7,500 a week and he expects to make over \$300,000 this year.

Sahl has found time to be married and divorced and at the moment is perhaps Los Angeles' most unabashedly wistful bachelor. He lives in a rented house in the hills above Sunset Strip, playing jazz records half the night and plowing through mounds of newspapers and magazines—for mental stimulus and material. He disdains alcohol, has little interest in food, but displays a passion for watches, small gadgets and automobiles. He currently owns three of the latter, with a fourth on the way.

"I'm looking for the perfect car," says Sahl.

TOMORROW: Shelley Berman.



Post Photo by Pomerant

**Presidential hopeful Sahl**  
Themes have a way of vanishing.

# *m*

## Sahl Finds Moscow Close To Ninotchka Film Version'

San Francisco, Oct. 10. — "Moscow is so close to the Hollywood version of 'Ninotchka' that it embarrasses you."

So saying, Mort Sahl, just in from Copenhagen on a trans-Polar jet, reported on his hectic, unhappy 48 hours in the Soviet capital last week.

Sahl said he'd planned to go to Moscow for five days, "to gather material" for his upcoming 28-performance concert tour.

Primarily, he wanted to "get out on the street" to talk to Russians. ~~He didn't~~ Instead, "it was encumbrance all the way." By that he meant:

(1) He couldn't phone outside the Hotel Berlin, where he was billeted, without Intourist intercepting the calls;

(2) He was restricted to three Intourist-approved restaurants.

(3) "I mentioned Time magazine and they just glowered at me, just like at home";

(4) "I gather their society is not aimed at consumer goods";

(5) "They're still fighting the last war — of course, I know we've been accused of fighting the next one";

(6) "I had more trouble getting out of Russia than in";

(7) "You should've seen the hell raised when I tried to reach the NBC correspondent in Moscow";

(8) The Russian restaurant food is "inedible," and the restaurants are loaded with dishes and silver "left over from the Czar . . . all dirty";

(9) Moscow's really "a blank city . . . they accepted 'Marty' in our film exchange program and must have felt great empathy with it because there's not much to do in Moscow at night, either."

### Other Sahl observations:

"Moscow is full of Chinese technicians . . . the Russians don't have a world outlook . . . they serve caviar incessantly, and I'm not its biggest fan — I'm afraid I'll lose touch with the people . . . they copied our cars and soft-drink machines, but that's about all — no Westernization at all . . . they keep telling you, 'we're in a period of transition'."

So, after two days of frustrations and with his "morbid curiosity" more than satisfied, Sahl departed. When his plane touched down at Copenhagen, and he put the rap on the Russians, he was told, "When this story comes out, you won't be able to go to Russia again." Sahl's reply:

"Promise?"

One point of resemblance to the West Sahl found in Russia:

~~"I tried tipping. It worked."~~

Mr. Tolson	<i>✓</i>
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Gandy	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
W.L. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Program	
Miss Gandy	

*John Sahl*  
*John Sahl*

*DONAHUE*

*Babatagan*

*John Sahl*

*John Sahl*

194-57223-A  
NOT RECORDED  
149 OCT 24 1960

F381  
53 OCT 27 1960

DAILY VARIETY  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA  
OCTOBER 11, 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*Memorandum*

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 7/21/61

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MORTON SAHL, REPORTED TO HAVE A PART IN "OPERATION TERROR"

You will recall that "Operation Terror" is the movie to be produced by Columbia Pictures, Inc. The story was written by the Gordons.

Attached is a clipping from "The Evening Star" of 7/20/61 which reflects that Mort Sahl will probably have a part in this movie which will star Glenn Ford. Memo has been submitted on Ford.

Sahl is one of the new breed of "sick" comics. He was born Morton Lyon Sahl on 5/11/27 in Montreal, Canada. His father, Harry Sahl, was employed by the Department of Justice from July, 1934, to May, 1937, and from August, 1937, to April, 1940, as a clerk and stenographer. The family eventually settled in Los Angeles, California, where Mort Sahl attended high school. He entered on active duty in the Army in August, 1944. He was reportedly released from the Army in January, 1947, and attended Compton Junior College in Compton, California, and the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. He received his degree in 1950.

His professional entertainment career began in December, 1953, when he was employed at the "Hungry i" in San Francisco. A newspaper article reflects that he began by satirizing movies and other innocuous subjects, and as he gained confidence, turned to politics. The "Hungry i" is a "beatnik" type establishment. He has since then played at a number of leading night clubs throughout the country and was reported in May, 1960, to be drawing a salary of \$5,000 per week at the Crescendo in Los Angeles.

Sahl has also made many television appearances as a guest, and in 1958, was the star of a musical comedy in New York called "The Next President." He took occasion then to mention the Director's book and recommended it as having considerable merit in telling one how "to turn your friends into the FBI for fun and profit." The play had a very short run.

Sahl's attack on prominent figures of whom he apparently disapproves are vicious and vitriolic. He has not only attacked the Director but also former President Eisenhower and former Vice President Nixon. The Director noted in August, 1958, that he had seen Sahl on the Jack Parr show and had seen and heard examples of his ridicule of General Eisenhower and Mr. Nixon.

Enclosure

REC-29 EX-105

94-51223-11

JUL 26 1961

CRIME RESEARCH

JCFM:paw  
(5)

28 1961

ENCLOSURE  
clipping

Jones to DeLoach memorandum  
Re: Morton Sahl

Sahl also satirized the FBI on a Jack Parr show depicting the fictitious capture of a Russian spy. This presentation was unfavorable to the FBI.

In June, 1959, we prepared a letter for Vice President Nixon concerning Sahl and quoted a column by Jack O'Brian which appeared in the "Northern Virginia Sun" of 5/23/58. O'Brian's comments pretty well sum up Sahl. He stated:

"It's always a cinch Sahl will have something harshly impertinent to garble about Ike or Nixon or John Edgar Hoover which Sahl likes to think proves courage, and we do not mean just selecting such Washington folk as targets, for they are prominent and therefore open to humor and wit..."

"His attitude is what is called 'offbeat' but his reaction to almost everything is negative, or else he doesn't discuss it; and his absolutely-to-be anticipated comments on any subject make him a sort of comic reactionary who seldom leaves his chosen field of soreheadedness.

"On the subject of using Nixon's misfortunes in South America as the peg to hang gags on, you somehow get the idea from the Sahls and others commenting purportedly humorously or wittily thereupon, that some degree of satisfaction should be taken out of the fact that the Vice-President of the United States was attacked..."

"Sahl seems to urge his audience to admire him just for being a comedy delinquent, adult in his selection of topical targets, but juvenile in his taste and manner, please note." (94-51223)

Sahl appeared on television in Los Angeles in July, 1960, and again satirized the FBI. This skit involved a tour of Khrushchev in Chicago with the FBI being responsible for Khrushchev's safety. Sahl pictured a notorious Chicago policeman noted for writing traffic tickets for members of his own family, judges, prominent city officials, etc., attempting to cite Khrushchev for a violation. Sahl indicated that the FBI prevented the policeman from citing Khrushchev and in so doing killed the policeman.

Our Los Angeles Office received information in July, 1959, that Sahl had agreed to appear at a benefit for the Powell--Schuman Defense Fund in Los Angeles if arrangements can be cleared through his manager. This fund and a committee of the same name were organized to raise money for the defense of Sylvia Powell and Julian Schuman who were to be tried for violation of the Sedition Laws of the United States. Powell and Schuman were associated with "China Monthly Review" in Shanghai, from 1950 to 1953 and reportedly caused to be printed accusations that the U. S. had conducted Germ warfare in Korea.

Jones to DeLoach memorandum

Re: Morton Sahl

In May, 1960, a cocktail party was scheduled for the benefit of the Southern California Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in Los Angeles. Entertainment was to be provided by Mort Sahl, Phyllis Kirk (Sahl's girlfriend according to newspaper accounts) and Actor James Whitmore.

The California Committee on Un-American Activities has described the Southern California Chapter of the ACLU as being infiltrated and influenced by communists. This cocktail party was reported attended by more than 1,000 persons and spurred the formation of a women's committee to serve as a fund-raising arm of the Southern California Chapter of the ACLU.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

✓

ASB

JUL 15  
7/71 PW

# HOLLYWOOD

By SHEILAH GRAHAM



## The View From London

LONDON (NANA). — The newest twosome in London—Comedian Mort Sahl, and Actress Joan Collins. They dined and theatered four nights in a row. "Shall I marry an actress?" Mort asked me over tea and hot buns in his lovely terrace suite. "You'd better" I told the 34-year-old star . . . and Rock Hudson had better watch the competition. "I'm going for broke" said Sahl, "I'm going to make a movie—probably, "Operation Terror" with Glenn Ford and Lee Remick." . . . Mort also plans a 10-minute daily news show on one of the TV networks.

Tony Perkins took me to see "Oliver," and predicted a Broadway success for David Merrick when he brings the hit musical to New York in the 1962-3 season. . . . Tony now starring in London with Melina Mercouri who was so good in "Never on Sunday," told me Jules Dassin started their filming here on Sunday in the British museum . . . and—not from Tony—it may be some time before Melina can marry Director Dassin. They both have to get divorces first.

To go back to "Oliver," Danny Kaye is the star most likely to play Fagin in the movie version. . . . Charlton Heston has to come back to London to "loop" some of his "El Cid" dialogue. But Sophia Loren will do hers in Rome where she is making another movie. This girl never stops. . . . Ava Gardner has been turning down five scripts a day, a friend from Spain tells me. Ava sold her big home and moved into an apartment in Madrid.

\* \* \* \*

David Niven isn't sure he'll be invited back to a certain town in Northern Italy. While filming, "The Best of Enemies," David was invited to try his hand on a sewing machine used for making shirts for the Italian army. David had fun, but about 100 Italian soldiers will be minus their shirt tails.

Ed Begley is coming to Hollywood to support those fine players Paul Newman and Geraldine Paige in "Sweet Bird of Youth."

Anthony Quinn it seems was upset when Sir Laurence Olivier played his role of the king on stage in "Becket." "I would never have left," he confided in Rome "I left the play to make 'Barrabas,' because I thought Larry was leaving the show and I didn't want to act with anyone else." Obviously Larry didn't mind at all.

\* \* \* \*

In London, "Becket" won unanimous praise from the critics, with Christopher Plummer, especially, getting raves. Canadian Chris was and I believe he still is, married to Tammy Grimes. They have been separated for some time.

Stewart Granger has been insisting that he and 17-year-old Italian starlet, Luciana Gilli, are merely good friends. She doesn't speak English and he doesn't know any Italian. But language has never been a barrier.

When photographer-director Jack Cardiff was hard up, he sold his first edition copy of "Ulysses," for about \$10. Jack will direct the Jerry Wald production in Dublin. He recently tried to buy another "Ulysses" first edition, and the price was \$400.

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Malone	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

The Washington Post and	_____
Times Herald	_____
The Washington Daily News	_____
The Evening Star	C-14 FINAL
New York Herald Tribune	_____
New York Journal-American	_____
New York Mirror	_____
New York Daily News	_____
New York Post	_____
The New York Times	_____
The Worker	_____
The New Leader	_____
The Wall Street Journal	_____
Date	_____

JUL 20 1961

ENCLOSURE  
74-51223-11

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: HARRY SAHL

DATE: 9-22-64

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach   
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen   
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Walter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

The attached 9-19-64 issue of "The Saturday Evening Post" features an article on Mort Sahl, the satirical comedian, in which some biographical data is set forth about him and his parents. On page 28 it states the following concerning Harry Sahl, Mort's father, "Harry Sahl soon discovered that his talents as a shopkeeper were slight. He returned to Los Angeles when Mort was seven to work in the local office of the FBI." The Director has requested that we check this.

Information in our files reveal that Harry Sahl was investigated in 1934 as an applicant for the Department of Justice. He subsequently entered on duty with the Department as a clerk and stenographer on 7-19-34 and terminated his employment on 5-12-37. He was rehired on 8-6-37, again terminating his employment on 4-20-40. From the Department of Justice, Harry Sahl then went with the Commerce Department. He was never employed by the FBI.

The 8-15-60 issue of "Time" magazine also carried biographical data indicating that he was employed at one time as a clerk of the FBI.

## RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

Dug  
9-22-64

Enclosure

1 - Mr. DeLoach

94-5120-3  
NOT RECORDED  
145 OCT 7 1964

JCF:kjb KJW 245  
(5) JCF

11 OCT 5 1964

CRIME RESEARCH

20 OCT 9 1964

ORIGINATOR: WFO:DP: 77-7713-3-3

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2:25PM April 7, 1965

SA Stapleton of the Tour Room has advised that Mr. MORT SAHL, a well known comedian who is currently appearing at the "Shadows," a Georgetown Nightclub, is in the Building and is presently being conducted on a special tour of the Bureau by SA Ervin Recer, Crime Records Division.

Mr. Sahl is accompanied by a Miss NORTON, Public Relations for the Sheraton Park Hotel.

There has been no request to meet the Director.

✓ MR. TOLSON ✓  
MR. BELMONT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. WELLOACH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TROTTER *W.S.* \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. METCALF \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_

I of course would  
not want to meet  
him.

E

joa

Mr. Sahl  
4/19/65 received  
4/19/65  
4/18/65  
Jewell 20

REC-44

94-51223-12

5 APR 14 1965

AG  
CORRESPONDENCE

60 APR 15 1965

SAC, Los Angeles

4-9-65

Director, FBI

MORTON SAHL  
COMEDIAN  
SPECIAL BUREAU TOUR  
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

For your information, Morton Sahl, comedian who resides in Beverly Hills, California, was conducted on a special tour of the Bureau on 4-7-65. He expressed appreciation for the courtesies afforded him and indicated an interest in the tour exhibits.

It is to be noted that Bufiles indicate Sahl has made critical references to the FBI in the past in connection with his entertainment appearances.

APR 9 2 09 PM '65

REC'D--READING ROOM  
FBI

- V
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent with cover memo)
  - 1 - Miss Holmes (sent with cover memo)
  - 1 - Tour Room (sent with cover memo)

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to DeLoach memo dated 4-8-65, captioned, "Morton Sahl Nightclub comedian, Special Bureau Tour."

ELR:gms  
(9)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



APR 15 1965

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

ST-116

A  
REC-29

94-51223-13

APR 12 1965

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 4-8-65

FROM : M. A. Jones ✓

SUBJECT: MORTON SAHL  
NIGHTCLUB COMEDIAN  
SPECIAL BUREAU TOUR

Morton Sahl, the so-called "sick" comedian, contacted the Bureau Tour Room yesterday (4-7-65) afternoon unexpectedly and requested a tour of our facilities. He was accompanied by Barbara Norton, Public Relations Department, Sheraton-Park Hotel, with whom we have had contact in the past in connection with tours for celebrities.

Sahl and Norton were conducted on a special tour by SA Ervin L. Recer, Crime Records Division. Sahl indicated considerable interest in the various exhibits, particularly those having to do with guns, as he advised he is something of a gun buff.

Sahl made no request to see the Director; however, Mr. Hoover was advised at approximately 2:25 p.m. of Sahl's presence in the building and that he was being conducted on a tour. The Director commented, "I, of course, would not want to meet him. H."

Sahl is currently appearing at The Shadows nightclub in Georgetown.

Bufiles reflect that Sahl has been critical of the Bureau and the Director in the past in connection with his satirical act. For example, in 1958 he was the star of a musical comedy in New York in which he took occasion to mention the Director's book, "Masters of Deceit," and recommended it as having considerable merit in informing one on how to "turn your friends into the FBI for fun and profit." This play had a very short run. In another instance, in 1960, Sahl satirized the FBI in a television skit which envisioned the FBI as protecting Khrushchev on a visit to Chicago. He pictured the FBI as killing a police officer who attempted to cite Khrushchev for a traffic violation and indicated satirically that the FBI was subsequently criticized for lack of police cooperation.

Sahl has also attacked other prominent individuals including former President Eisenhower and former Vice President Richard Nixon.

Enclosure *sent 4-9-65*

1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure

1 - Miss Holmes - Enclosure

1 - Tour Room - Enclosure

ELR:gms (7)

RECEIVED  
APR 16 1965  
FBI - WASH. D.C.  
APR 16 1965  
CRIME RESEARCH

Continued next page.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

M. A. Jones to DeLoach memo  
RE: MORTON SAHL

During the tour on 4-7-65, Sahl was treated with courtesy and restraint. He indicated that he was most appreciative of the consideration given him.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter be sent to the Los Angeles Office, (Sahl resides in Beverly Hills, California) advising of Sahl's visit to the Bureau.

*John F. Kennedy  
Sahl is a sick, sick man.  
H*

EXP. PROC.

DEC 5 1966

HARRY SMITH

Los Angeles, California

December 1st, 1966

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has been some time now since I wrote you last, mainly because I am aware of your busy schedule and don't want to unnecessarily take up your valuable time.

I do however, wish to call your attention to an obnoxious clown who is connected with the K.L.A.C. Radio Station and K.T.T.V. Television Station here in Los Angeles, as a broadcaster, who's name is Mort Sahl, born in Montreal, Canada and I presume, is a naturalized citizen. Mr. Sahl, snap-shot attached, operates principally from the Hungry Eye night-club at North Beach, San Francisco, California. This man has an obsession for tearing down any and all of the Warren Commission report on the assassination of President, John F. Kennedy, which in itself, is alright with me, considering his constitutional right to free speech. On the other hand, I resent his consistent, voluble and libelous attacks on you personally and the way you handle your job as Director of the F.B.I. I would like to know if you have had any reports on this fellow and his anti-American utterances, as I consider his entire format quite seditious.

94-51223-

NOT RECORDED

I am enclosing a clipping from the Los Angeles Times, dated November 28th, 1966, under the by-line of Drew Pearson. Will notice that he carefully fails to mention that you never engage in this type of investigation without the full sanctioning of the Attorney General and above him, the President of the U.S.A. I realize that Mr. Pearson is just trying to be sensational in order to sell his column, but it's all at your expense, which I don't like.

TENCE  
Would it be remiss of me to ask if you have any personal opinion as to why so many Jewish intellectuals pot-shot at you, notwithstanding your many outstanding accomplishments in the field of National Defense and the Civil-Rights of all peoples? Whatever you say to me in this respect will be treated as strictly confidential. I have talked to a number of Jewish school-teachers and professors on this subject and they brush off any logical refutation of their stand against you. One in particular, is a young high-school teacher, who escaped the Auschwitz gas chamber in Germany by only a few hours, before the Allied armies rescued him during the close of World War Two. He is now 30 years old, teaches here in Los Angeles and is a naturalized citizen. This one is as far left as anyone could be and is definitely against any and everything you do. As a matter of fact, I find them all to be anti-traditional America and I can't understand them. 12/17/66 D.LC/jml-ral/fy31

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nick	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

08  
10/12/66

ORIGINAL FILED IN 1-6036-1

8-005

5/1

HARRY SMITH

stand why they are not thankful for the privilege of living in this wonderful United States of America.

I believe that every time this Mort Sahl broadcasts, he recruits new members for the American-Nazi Party, if there is such an organization.

The inconsistent thing about these so-called Jewish intellectuals is that they are quick to call in their Ethnic Defamation League against any anti-Semitic utterance, yet they think it is perfectly ethical to besmirch the name and record of many of our most outstanding and patriotic citizens. I really would like to hear what you have to say on this subject, if possible, as I am deeply puzzled by the attitude of too many of these people.

Let me say again that I sincerely appreciate the periodical information you send me covering your magnificent leadership of the F.B.I. and I will feel safe, only so long as you are head of this bureau. I suppose the only thing I don't get from you is the continuing list and mug-shots of your most wanted criminals, nevertheless, I do highly value the insight of the things I do get from you. In this connection, I must say that I definitely enjoy every sequence of the television program F.B.I!

I am wishing for you a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New-Year and pray that you will continue in your profession for many years yet to come.

Yours Cordially,

*Harry Smith*

Harry Smith

Harry Smith  
3452½ Plata Street  
Los Angeles, California 90026

# Bugging Bobby Baker Has FBI in the Soup

The FBI is not exactly holding its breath, but some of its agents are worried that U.S. Judge Oliver Gasch will rule that J. Edgar Hoover has to testify in the sensational case of bugging at the Sheraton-Carlton Hotel, involving the conversations of Bobby Baker, former secretary of the Senate and right-hand man to then-Sen. Lyndon Johnson.

Hoover himself is reported not to be losing any sleep. He knows that Judge Gasch, a straitlaced public servant who calls the shots as he sees them, has spent much of his career as a public prosecutor, and prosecutors lean toward the FBI.

But, meanwhile, there are some amazing developments in the eavesdropping on Bobby Baker and his friend Fred Black, the public rela-

One development in the bugging of the Sheraton-Carlton is that the FBI agents also listened in on conversations in the VIP suite, where foreign visitors were entertained.

The Carlton is located only a step across Lafayette Square from the White House and is convenient for the entertainment of VIPs.

These visitors will now be interested in learning that for three months, Feb. 7 to April 25, 1963, every remark they made in suite 434-36 was listened to by American agents 24 hours a day.

This was because Fred Black's suite was next door — 438-40 — and the eavesdropping equipment which

the FBI installed was so strong that it picked up conversation in the neighboring VIP suite.

The United States has long been critical of police-state methods by Communist nations and at one time accused the Soviet government of placing a bug in the American Embassy. This was over 20 years ago. Today if a bug were found in the Moscow Hotel suite of an American visitor there would be an international uproar.



This year President Tito of Yugoslavia fired the vice president of Yugoslavia, Aleksander Rankovic, because he had engaged in wire tapping. Today the Communist world is having the laugh on the United States—thanks to Hoover.

Another important development in the Bobby Baker case is the fact that the FBI has now violated his constitutional rights. This has been officially stipulated by William O. Bittman, Justice Department attorney who is contesting the case against Baker.

Reason for the stipulation was that the Justice Department was trying to dodge the fact J. Edgar Hoover has got himself in a position where the FBI can be prosecuted either for housebreaking or violation of constitutional rights. The latter is a felony with a punishment up to 10 years in jail.

94-51223

ENCLOSURE



**Mort Sahl — Sunday,  
6:45 PM for airing Fri-  
days 11 PM.**

At present the FBI is being prosecuted criminally in Nevada, where it placed the equivalent of 125 wire taps, in collaboration with the Central Telephone Co. of Nevada, also a defendant.

It should be noted in fairness that FBI men are extremely efficient and carry out orders. They should not be blamed personally. Nevertheless a criminal violation is a criminal violation.



How J. Edgar Hoover and the Justice Department are going to get around this law violation remains to be seen. For the Justice Department, which is in charge of enforcing the law, will be in the position of prosecuting an arm of the Justice Department, the FBI. In Nevada this is not the case because state law is involved. But, in the District of Columbia, federal law is involved and the Justice Department is entrusted with enforcing it.

The Justice Department is now under Acting Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, an able young man who took over when Nicholas Katzenbach was transferred to be undersecretary of state. There has been speculation that Katzenbach's demotion was due to the fact that he OK'd the public confession of Hoover's wire tapping. Such an admission had never been made before, though long suspected.



**The Tangled Web**  
Cartoon by Herblock

ions man who has won a new trial because the FBI romped over his constitutional rights. Black had been convicted of tax evasion, until the Justice Department went before the Supreme Court to make the embarrassing confession that J. Edgar Hoover had been eavesdropping and wiretapping for years, apparently without the knowledge of the attorney general.

HARRY SMITH

Los Angeles, California

December 21st, 1966

Miss. Helen W. Gandy, Secty.  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Miss. Gandy:

I thank you very much for your acknowledgement of my letter to Mr. Hoover, dated December 1st, 1966.

Yes, I am definitely looking forward to the time when Mr. Hoover is free to answer my letter. I wrote him mainly in regard to this radio broadcaster, Mort Sol, who is now appealing to teen-age students to listen to his diatribe, discrediting Mr. Hoover.

Mr. Sol let the cat out of the bag last night, when he announced that he is going to collaborate with another scavenger-author by the name of Harold Weisberg in writing a book, pointing out misinformation and discrepancies in Mr. Hoover's report to the Warren Commission, concerning details of the assassination of Pres. John F. Kennedy.

MORT SAHL

This fellow Sol is quite cunning, in that he has said, in case he is brought to court on a defamation charge, he will plead that he is a comedian and anything he says, should be construed as satire.

It is too bad the F.C.C. can't silence this fellow!

Please show this letter to Mr. Hoover and tell him that I, personally, would breathe a sigh of relief, if the Kennedy family decided to disappear from the political scene altogether. They are causing us to choose up sides, to where it is quite ominous.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

14-57223  
NOT RECOGNIZED

199 DEC 28 1966

12 DEC 28 1966

Yours Cordially,

Harry Smith

Harry Smith  
3452½ Plaza Street  
Los Angeles, California 90026

25 JAN 1967

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Wiley \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL FILED IN 1-6036-27

March 29, 1967

REC. 94-51223-15

BFDI

Mrs. M. Monahan  
10939 Ratner  
Sun Valley, California 91352

ENFORIMENT

CP BOB  
BFDI  
DAPP

Dear Mrs. Monahan:

I have received your letter of March 21st and want to thank you for your expression of confidence and favorable comments concerning my work. Remarks such as yours are certainly appreciated and serve as a source of encouragement.

With respect to the statement attributed in your letter to Mr. Mort Sahl regarding me, I believe it is so ridiculous as not to warrant a reply.

Sincerely yours,

E. Edgar Hoover



W. J. Clegg  
APR 1 1967

NOTE: Bufiles contain no derogatory information concerning radio station KLAC. Mort Sahl toured the Bureau on April 7, 1965, the Director indicated he did not wish to see Sahl and described him as a sick man. Bufiles reflect that in February, 1959, Sahl agreed to appear at a benefit for Sylvia Powell and Julian Schuman who had been tried for sedition. In May of 1960 Sahl entertained at a benefit held by the Southern California Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union which is described as being infiltrated and influenced by communists. Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

BGH:acp

(3) acp

SEC.D-BE

APR 10 1967

NO. 50

3 JU bkh ps

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

BEC.D BEFOUCH

APR 10 1967

MINETT DIA  
HFG Recd

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Wirk	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

March 21, 1967

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Since I was very young ~~in me~~ your name has been synonymous with Honesty, Integrity & Security for our Country. I've been angered when an erstwhile nightclub comedian has accused you over the air of "selling out," "allowing the President to be killed & doing nothing about it." His every remark is designed to foster suspicion in our Country, the Leaders & the form of Government that makes the United States the great Country it is.

This man who has a telephone show Radio K.L.A.C. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Mon thru Fri said this evening between 7:00 & 7:25 p.m. that "the Chinese could take over anytime which would make no difference to J. Edgar Hoover because you would do the same job for them you've done for us." He is Mort Sahl & His one aim is to destroy confidence in "the Establishment." I telephoned & protested his criticism of you & the President he told me to "take my garbage & die with the rest of the Country."

The F.C.C. obviously allows any insult to go over the air. He smears & rants like a demented man. I wish you would get his tapes for the last month. If we were in a declared war he'd be put in Jail. I protest this vilification, it goes beyond free Speech -- The Station will do nothing about him. They merely say he's entitled to his opinion. I wish you good health & continued success.

10929 Patner  
Sun Valley  
Colley 91352

Sincerely

(Mrs) M. Monahan

V COPY:nm

ach  
66H/act  
3/29/67

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. DeLoach	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Wick	.....
Mr. Casper	.....
Mr. Callahan	.....
Mr. Conrad	.....
Mr. Felt	.....
Mr. Gale	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Sullivan	.....
Mr. Tavel	.....
Mr. Trotter	.....
Tele. Room	.....
Miss Holmes	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Dear Mr. Hoover      March 21, 1967

young      Since I was very young your name has been synonymous with Honesty, Integrity & Sincerity for our Country. I've been angered when on last night Club Comedian has accused you over the air of "selling-out," allowing the President to be belied & doing nothing about it." His <sup>REC</sup> <sup>EX-103</sup> <sup>54-51223-15</sup> <sup>11 MAR 27 1967</sup> ~~every remark~~ is designed to foster suspicion in our Country, the Leaders & the form of Government that makes the United States the

EXP. PROC.

39 MAR 27 1967

Ack  
Batt/arp  
3/29/67

Great Country it is.

This man who has a telephone  
Radio K. L. A. C.  
Show 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
Mon three Iii said this evening  
between 7:00 & 7:25 p.m. that  
"the Chinese could take over  
anytime which would make  
no difference to G. Edgar Hoover  
because you would do the  
same job for them you  
done for us". He is Mort  
Sahl. His one aim is to  
destroy confidence in "the  
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The F.C.C. obviously allows  
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a demented man. I wish you  
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last month. If we were in  
a decontrolled War he'd be put  
in jail. I protest this  
vulgarization, it goes beyond  
free speech - The Station  
will do nothing about him.  
They merely say he's entitled  
to his opinion - I wish  
you good health & continued  
success - sincerely

(Mrs) M. Mahan

April 21, 1967

REC-8 94-51973 -14

Mrs. Florence G. Farrell  
123 East Oak Avenue  
El Segundo, California 90245

Dear Mrs. Farrell:

I have received your letter of April 17th and want to thank you for bringing the information to my attention. I can certainly understand your concern, and your thoughtfulness in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



NOTE: Correspondent is on the Special Correspondents' List. Bufiles contain no derogatory information concerning radio station KLAC. Mort Sahl toured the Bureau on 4-7-65, the Director indicated he did not wish to see Sahl and described him as a sick man.

BGH:kcf (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

55 MAY 2 1967

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

123 E. Oak Ave.  
El Segundo, Calif.  
April 17, 1967

90245

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Will you please have someone in  
the FBI listen to the tapes of the  
Mort Sohl radio program starting at  
8 P. M. (our time) on KLAC, 5828  
Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, phone  
9370110.

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. DELOACH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. WICK \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. METCALF \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_

Sohl continuously blackens the U S Govt. and  
officials -- urges all draftees to refuse to serve --  
urges peace marches and demonstrations -- in my  
opinion urges treason and sedition. Tonight's tapes  
of violent speeches (by others) against the Government  
the president and vice-president made my blood run  
cold.

I am afraid for our good and great country!

Thank you.

(Mrs.) Florence G. Farrell.  
address above

COPY:nm

37

Mailing List
4-20-67
Change Noted
<i>Bat</i>

PRC Farrell  
SOUTH BAY PUBLISHING CO.  
38 - 14TH STREET  
HERMOSA BEACH, CALIFORNIA

MCT-36  
REC-8

94-51523

14

123 E. Oak Ave.  
El Segundo, Calif.  
April 17, 1967

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Will you please have someone  
in the FBI listen to the tapes  
of the Mort Sohl radio program  
starting at 8 p.m. (our time) on  
KLAC, 5828 Wilshire Blvd. Los  
Angeles, phone 9370110.

Sohl continuously blackens the  
U.S. govt. and officials - urges all  
draftees to refuse to serve - urges  
peace marches and demonstrations  
- in my opinion urges treason and  
sedition. Tonight's tapes & violent speeches (by others) against the  
government the president and vice-  
president made my blood run cold  
I am afraid for our good and  
great country! Thank you.  
(Mrs.) Florence J. Garrell.  
Address above

ML-SCH  
ach  
4-21-67  
5-11

REC-44

61933-17

September 11, 1967

EX 104

Mrs. Annette Brocka  
2147 Belle Street  
San Bernardino, California 92404

Dear Mrs. Brocka:

Your letter of September 4th has been received.

The FBI does not have investigative jurisdiction over television programs; however, you may wish to write to Chairman Rosel H. Hyde, Federal Communications Commission, New Post Office Building, Pennsylvania Avenue at 12th Street, Washington, D. C. 20554, for any assistance he may be able to render.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar Hoover



NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

BGH:mjh

(3) my

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

REC'D BY REC'D BY

E. B. T. E. B. T.

E. B. T. E. B. T.

26 b 5 23 BH.ES  
16 B 12 5 23 BH.ES

F38  
70 SEP 19 1967

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

AM

TRUE COPY

Monday 4th 67

J. Edger Hoover

Dear Mr. Hoover

After listening to the Johnny Carson show here in California Monday the 4th of September of which the beginning of the show Mr. Carson Introduced Mort Sahl and said Mr. Carson quote 'I'm a great admirerer of Mr. Sahl.' unquote I think everyone knows what Mr. Sahl stands for. He did no entertaining as Carsons guest. He's whole spot was Making a fool of the President & Vice President, plus other insults for which he is so famous. This same Mr. Sahl was kicked off the Radio out here in Calif for his revelutionary ideas, also, the song that was sung on the show was called "Rape" which was sung by three something or others. Now my point is, the rate that crime is climbing especially the attacks on women, some of them brought on by this sort of thing which appeals to weak minds and psychos which makes a woman afraid to walk on the street after dark. Isn't there someone one could complain to about these dirty shows, and that's what they are. These sort of shows are contributing to much of the crimes in this country. I'm a nurse and I've seen some terrible things that have happened to women. It seem to me Mr. Carson gets by with some pretty far out-material. I won't listen to him anymore, but how about the people who think this is the trend, and go along with it. I think the first place to start to beautify this country is to start with the people. Also, Mr. Sahl made a very degrading remark about a well decorated serviceman, he was supposed to have met at the White House. This I resent very much, since my son is a serviceman and as far as character is concerned My son towers over people like Mr. Sahl. If it's allowable on your part, I'd appriciate it if you could let me know to whom I could write and make my complaint.

REG 44 94-51223-17  
EX 104 Very respectfully

Mrs. Annette Brocka  
2147 Belle St  
San Bernardino 92404  
California

SEP 12 1967

CORRESPONDENCE

<sup>He</sup>  
" Monday 4th 67

J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Mr. Hoover

After listening to the Johnny Carson show here in California Monday the 4th of September of which the beginning of the show Mr. Carson introduced Mort Sahl and said Mr. Carson "I'm a great admirer of Mr. Sahl." I think everyone knows what Mr. Sahl stands for. He did no <sup>unquote</sup> entertainment as Carson's guest. His whole spot was making a fool of the President & Vice President plus other insults for which he is so famous. To his same Mr. Sahl was kicked off the Radio out here <sup>in Calif.</sup> for his revolutionary ideas. also, the song that was <sup>was</sup> sung on the show called

CORRESPONDENCE

17C  
9-8-67  
9-<sup>mp</sup>  
Oct 16  
9-11-67  
DCH:mp

"Rape" which was sung by three  
Something or others. Now my  
point is, the rate that crime  
is climbing especially the attacks  
on women, some of them brought  
on by this sort of thing which  
appeals to weak minds and  
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3

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let me know to whom I should  
write and make my complaint

Very respectfully  
Mrs Annette Brooks  
2147 Bello St  
San Bernardino 92404  
California

# Man in the Force

By SIMON RUNYON JR.

Previously, comedian Mort Sahl is a volunteer investigator in New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's probe of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

This disclosure was casually made by Sahl last week when he was a guest on the National Broadcasting Company's "Tonight Show." Host Johnny Carson appeared astounded to the point of disbelief.

Sahl made it plain that he wasn't joking, spoke earnestly and informatively on Carson's side of the controversial issue. Carson seemed to reflect NBC's undisguised skepticism about the prosecutor and his investigation.

When the guest first took a seat on the usually lightweight conversational show, the host amiably asked the state of his health and what had he been doing lately. Only a few pleasantries had been exchanged when the bombshell was dropped.

Sahl, who is more humorist than clown, and whose act usually has been politically-oriented, explained he went to New Orleans to write a book and came to believe Garrison "has something."

The prosecutor's theory, he reported, was that seven men were involved, at least four of them shooting, in the murder of President Kennedy November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Tex.

Sahl gave himself only minor billing in his present role with the Garrison office. He apparently attends minor work that otherwise would tie up a regular staff investigator. He explained:

"It's a voluntary contribution."

On Monday Carson informed his television audience that Garrison himself would appear on the program Wednesday night and make some "new disclosure."

The latest "in depth" study of the New Orleans investigation was made by the eminent Wall Street Journal. "Jim, do you really believe all this stuff?" That was the Journal's question. The prosecutor obviously does.

He believes there was a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy. Retired New Orleans businessman Clay Shaw, 54, former director of the International Trade Mart in the Crescent City, comes to trial February 14 on Garrison's conspiracy charge.

OCT 28 1969 Jw

FEB 13 1968

The pistol-packing prosecutor lately subpoenaed Mrs. Marina Oswald Porter, the Russian-born remarried widow of the cipher fingered by the Warren Commission as the lone gunman. She's now a Richardson (Texas) housewife who made this comment:

"I don't know if I could prove my innocence to him. Mr. Garrison is so powerful."

Additional information glossed over by the Warren Commission was entered in the Congressional Record by Rep. John R. Rarick, Louisiana Democrat, at the request Rep. G.V. Montgomery, Mississippi Democrat.

Rarick's contribution was a long article from a publication called Herald of Freedom of New Jersey. There was no intended connection with the Kennedy assassination, but it happened to reveal the background of the one person Oswald sought for help when he was clapped in Dallas jail.

Mrs. Ruth Paine, close acquaintance of the Oswalds, told the Warren Commission that Oswald phoned her twice in succession, oddly enough—"To ask me to call Mr. John Abt in New York for him after six p.m." She added:

"He gave a telephone number of an office in New York and a residence in New York."

Abt, Oswald told her, "was an attorney he wanted to have."

Who was John J. Abt?

He was, according to the Congressional Record, one-time attorney in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, later chief counsel for the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee in the Senate and a special assistant to the US Attorney General.

And, by the account in the Record, he was identified in "sworn testimony as a Communist and member of an espionage group."

He was in the Harold Were cell of the Communist Party, the Record discloses, to present-day Washington. Members of that

cell included:

Nathan Witt, AAA attorney; Lee Pressman, assistant general counsel for the AAA; Charles Kramer of the AAA and the LaFollette committee; Henry H. Collins Jr., of the National Recovery Administration (NRA); Victor Perlo of the NRA, Office of Price Administration (OPA) and the War Production Board (WPB), now a writer for the Communist Worker; Alger Hiss, who fell from government heights to prison, and his brother, Donald, a Public Works Administration attorney.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

94-51223-A

NOT RECORDED  
 199 FEB 7 1968

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62 109660-1

The Washington Post

Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_

The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_

The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_

New York Post \_\_\_\_\_

The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_

The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_

The Worker \_\_\_\_\_

The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_

The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_

People's World \_\_\_\_\_

Date Feb 7 1968

Examiner (WASH)

Page 1

62-109660

The Warren Commission Report simply described John J. Abt of New York as an attorney, and said Abt was not in New York when Oswald sought to contact him. The Report added:

"Abt has testified that he at no time had any dealings with Oswald and that prior to the assassination he had never heard of Lee Harvey Oswald."



Mort Sahl

Jim Garrison

Clay Shaw



Marina Oswald

John Ruby

Lee Harvey Oswald

DIRECTOR, FBI  
(ATTN: CRIME RECORDS)

5/21/68

SAC, CINCINNATI (62-2758)

MORT SAHL  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed is a copy of excerpts from a tape we received from Mr. SAM JOHNSTON, Vice President and General Manager of WKRC-TV, Cincinnati, Ohio (Channel 12).

This particular tape is of the Twelve Noon Show which was broadcast on WKRC-TV at noon, 5/15/68.

SAHL is discussing the assassination of former President JOHN F. KENNEDY, and he also mentions the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING. SAHL is highly critical of the FBI and the CIA.

This appears to be a rehash of previous criticism by other individuals who have appeared on television and have written books relative to this matter.

This is for the Bureau's information in case they have not been advised previously of MORT SAHL.

This office has made a copy of the tape, and we are maintaining it in the files of the Cincinnati Office.

② - Bureau (Encl. 1)  
1 - Cincinnati

HJM:ked  
(3)

94-51223 -  
NOT RECORDED  
199 MAY 31 1968

94  
62 JUN 10 1968

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-109060-6132

*ST  
esa*  
March 28, 1969

REC-88 94-51223-11

Mr. Albert Glassnap  
527 Chain Drive  
Appleton, Wisconsin 54911

Dear Mr. Glassnap:

I received your letter on March 26th and appreciate your furnishing this information to me as well as your views. Since your communication may be of interest to another governmental agency, I am forwarding a copy of it to the Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, Washington, D. C. 20554.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. The individual correspondent is referring to was undoubtedly Mort Sahl, a well-known entertainment personality. Sahl, in the past, in an attempt at satire, has on various occasions exceeded humorous boundaries in his ridicule of the activities of the FBI, other law enforcement agencies and high ranking governmental officials. Copy of letter being furnished to Federal Communications Division by form referral same date.

FMG:sam (3)

MAILED 10  
MAR 28 1969  
COMM-FBI  
  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

79 *seen*  
36 *edmn*  
APR 9 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*Yan 28*

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. DeLoach	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Bishop	.....
Mr. Casper	.....
Mr. Callahan	.....
Mr. Conrad	.....
Mr. Felt	.....
Mr. Gale	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Sullivan	.....
Mr. Tavel	.....
Mr. Trotter	.....
Tele. Room	.....
Miss Holmes	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
	.....
	.....

527 Chain Drive  
Appleton Wis.  
March 24, 1969

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Last night, while watching the "Smothers Brothers" show on Television a fellow came on between the halves of the show and insulted the President of the United States, Mr. Nixon and yourself. He openly admitted that he was a left winger and said that the country was turning left quite rapidly. Television has to censor this sort of think or illiminate it completely. This is what gives aid and comfort to the enemy. In the last month or so Television has gotten out of hand and if it can't censor itself it will have to be censored by someone with authority.

Yours truly

Albert Glassnap

Albert Glassnap  
527 Chain Drive  
Appleton Wis. 54911

COPY:nm

*3/28/69 B  
FBI/AS/*

*862*

527 Chain Drive  
Appleton Wis.

March 24 - 1969

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D. C.

(yellow)

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

Last night, while watching the "Smothers Brothers" show on Television a fellow came on between the halves of the show and insulted the President of the United States, Mr. Nixon and yourself. He openly admitted that he was a left winger and said that the country was turning left quite rapidly. Television has to censor this sort of thing or eliminate it completely. This is what gives aid and comfort to the enemy. In the last month or so Television has gotten out of hand and if it can't censor itself it will have to be censored by someone with authority.

REG-88 94-51223-18

Yours truly,

Albert Glassman.

CORRESPONDENCE

EX-PROC

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bishop *BS*

DATE: 4-2-69

FROM : M. A. Jones

REMARKS BY MORT SAHL ON  
SUBJECT: ~~"SMOTHERS BROTHERS'~~  
TELEVISION SHOW  
MARCH 23, 1969  
CONCERNING FBI AND DIRECTOR

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Marshall \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Brennan \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

It has been brought to our attention that on the above program Mort Sahl, who has been described as a political satirist, made some remarks concerning the Director and the FBI. We inquired into this and learned that Sahl told a series of jokes about the FBI such as one concerning the continued rise in the crime rate. He said the crime rate was merely trying to keep up with the FBI's budget. He remarked that the Director has been in Washington so long he regards the Presidents as transients.

At the end of his monologue he mentioned that the Director was celebrating his 45th anniversary as head of the FBI this spring and that in spite of his jokes concerning the Director he felt the Director was doing an excellent job.

Mort Sahl in the past has ridiculed the FBI, law enforcement, and high public officials beyond the bounds of good humor. Smothers Brothers have been in the public eye for their opposition to the war in Vietnam, Selective Service, and their attacks on the so-called "establishment." Tom Smothers is one of the producers of "Hair," a play featuring obscene four-letter words, mass nudity, and disrespect of the American flag.

## RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

✓  
*Dahl is a pick man!*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
1 - Miss Gandy  
1 - Miss Holmes

54 APR 1 41969

LSL:nls (7) 220

EX-11 REC 1 94-51223-19

APR 20 1969  
CRIME RESEARCH

*DO-6*

*16*  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

October 13, 1969

The attached article was sent to the Director from Pat A Del Grom (?), Brooklyn, New York. The return address on the envelope is as follows --  
~~Sterling Trophies, Inc.,~~  
~~7722 13th Avenue, Brooklyn,~~  
~~New York 11228.~~

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. DELOACH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MCGRATH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BISHOP \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAYLOR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. METCALF \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_  
*Hallahan*

*Ereel*

nm

*Sterling Trophies, Inc.*

7722-13TH AVENUE  
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11228

J. EDGAR HOOVER  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

REC-5 94-3223-30

ST 109 2 OCT 16 1969

ENCLOSURE

58 OCT 27 1969

**Wake Up, America...**

# *ALAN DALE*



# Joey Bishop or Pawn?

September 22, 1969! Joey Bishop again offered us (how many times this year?) the contentions of Mort Sahl. Again, the vitriolic tongue of Sahl lashed out against J. Edgar Hoover, the Pentagon, the Vice President. Again, his observations went unchallenged, unclarified, and unverified. What added to the outrage this time was the following introduction of Sahl by Bishop - "Each time I've had Mort on I've never afforded him the amount of time that he really requires. . ." (Requires to do what, Joey?)

Readers of this column know that we have prepared a case against TV which is now ready for consideration by a Congressional committee. Our tapes and texts (plus those which shall be subpoenaed), will prove that TV is promoting demoralization and the Left Wing Revolution. Joey Bishop would be wise to check out how much time was donated to Mort Sahl by TV and by ABC and by his own show before uttering incredible statements such as the following which he directed to Sahl as the show ended—“...I think something is wrong when some people in power decide who should or should not be allowed a television show for his platform. If I remember correctly, before he died, George Lincoln Rockwell had no trouble at all finding different shows to go on. And I'm sure if they could extend that courtesy to him, the least they could do is find a platform somewhere for you.”

Was Bishop's intention to have us believe that Sahl has NOT "found a platform" in television land? We who have the tapes and the texts know that Sahl's tongue is one of the most exploited whips that ever lashed the back of an already bleeding nation.

Why does Bishop intimate to his audience that Mort Sahl and his opinions are being suppressed? And I question Bishop's statement that the Nazi leader, Rockwell, "had no trouble at all finding different shows to go on." I am certain that, whenever he did appear, the host would make it absolutely clear what **Rockwell**

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WAKE UP, AMERICA !!! Send this column to J. Edgar Hoover, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C. 20535 - and please continue sending all my columns to Cong. John R. Rarick, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

**ENCLOSURE**

October 17, 1969

REG 62

94-51223-21

Mr. James S. Larkin  
61 Oliver Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11209

B-APPB/13-N

Dear Mr. Larkin:

I have received your letter of October 11th, with enclosure, and appreciate your writing as you did.

Your remarks regarding the FBI mean a great deal to me and I hope our future activities will continue to merit your support.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent could not be identified in Bureau files. Other individuals have also forwarded this particular column by Alan Dale.

AWT:sls (3)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

OCT 29 1969  
NOV 10 1969  
MAILED 4  
TELETYPE UNIT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Oct. 11, 1969  
 61 Oliver St.  
 Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D.C. 20535

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,

Dear Sir;

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter about Joey Bishop and that other thing that answer's too Mort Sahl, Lord only know what their real names are.

First I want to tell you, that you are one of the finest men of our great Country, but I can't understand why we let these louses like the Bishop's and Sahl's and all their type get away with what they are getting away with. I know their type even to the highest one in government service stick togeather when you try to do something to them but we in the magarity will stick with you. I am 75 years old and never in my lifetime have seen and heard such things as today. They are all cowards and the first one that is made an example of the others will go in their rat holes.

My very best to you and a big salute for all that you stand for

Sincerely

James S. Larkin



COPY:nm

REG 62

14 OCT 17 1969

PERS. REC. UNIT

NML

74-51283-21

**Wake Up, America...**

## *ALAN DALE*



## **Joey - Bishop or Pawn?**

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ENCL 0

94-51233 - JI

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Oct. 11 1969  
61 Oliver St  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209

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My very best to you and a big salute for all that you stand for

ENCLOSURE

Sincerely CORRESPONDENCE  
James S. Larkin

mmf/ack  
10-17-69  
AUT. 10/18/69

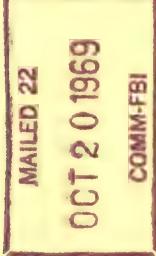
October 20, 1969

REC- 82 ~~Mr. M. Attanasio~~  
1102 Bay Ridge Parkway  
Brooklyn, New York 11228

Dear Mr. Attanasio:

On October 16th I received the newspaper clipping you forwarded and want to express my appreciation. It was indeed thoughtful of you to send it to me.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover



NOTE: Bureau files reflect no prior correspondence with Mr. Attanasio and no information to preclude sending this letter. Other individuals have sent this column to the Bureau. Alan Dale has also sent copies of some of his columns and books to the Director which have been briefly answered.

AWT:sgc (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
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Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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M-5 W-12 S-12 T-12 9-1369

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

October 16, 1969

The attached clipping was sent to the Director from M. Attanasio, 1102 Bay Ridge Parkway, Brooklyn, New York 11228.

nm

MORT SAHL

OCT 1

M. ATTANASIO  
1102 BAY RIDGE PKY.  
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11228

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. DELAHUGH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BISHOP \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. METCALF \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_

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God please do

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\*\*\*\*\*  
Wake Up, America...

ALAN DALE



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REC-82

74-51223 ENCLOSURE

**October 23, 1969**

REC-38

94-51223-23

Miss Elizabeth Gabrick  
9016 Third Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11209

**Dear Miss Gabrick:**

Your letter of October 18th, with enclosure,  
has been received, and I appreciate your sending me a copy  
of the clipping you forwarded.

Enclosed is some material regarding communism which I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



**Enclosures (4)**

## What You Can Do To Fight Communism

## What Does the Future Hold?

## **Statement on Communism**

## **Director's Testimony 4-17-69 re Communist, Racial & Extremist Groups**

NOTE: Correspondent could not be identified in Bufiles. Other individuals have sent this clipping. Alan Dale has also forwarded copies of his clippings and books to the Director which have been briefly acknowledged.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AWT:cs (3)

*red* 102

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
9016 Third Ave  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209  
Oct. 18, 1969

Dear Mr. Hoover

Thank God for the few Americans who will speak out against Communism - risking their careers - perhaps their lives. The T.V. Network, the press of America is controlled by the Left. -

|| What can be done about it?

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. DELOACH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. WALTERS \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BISHOP *Pbk* ✓  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. METCALF \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY *Huckleberry* ✓

Sincerely

(Miss) Elizabeth Gabrick

AEIC:10/23/69

ARST/8

JAW

COPY:hcv

mm

9016 Third Ave  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209

Oct. 18, 1969

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What can be done  
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1 ENCLOSURE

Aek:10/23/69

AWT

EX-114 REC-32 94-51223-23

17 OCT 21 1969

Sincerely  
(ms) Elizabeth Gabrick

CORRESPONDENCE

\* \* \* \* \* Wake Up, America...

## ALAN DALE

A TITLE By



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8916-4th Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y.  
CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH  
NUCASTLE MOTORS

INSTANT CREDIT  
BANK RATES  
CALL MR. CASTLE SH 8-8012

67 Satellite HT	\$1895	68 Mercury HT	\$1195	69 Fury Wag.	\$2595	70 Fury HT	\$1895	71 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	72 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	73 Olds 442	\$2295	74 Olds 350	\$2695	75 Oldsmobile	\$1995	76 VW, R&H	\$1550	77 Impala	\$1895	78 Fury III	\$2295	79 Impala	\$1995	80 Fury HT	\$1295	81 Impala	\$1995	82 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	83 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	84 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	85 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	86 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	87 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	88 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	89 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	90 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	91 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	92 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	93 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	94 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	95 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	96 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	97 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	98 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	99 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	100 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	101 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	102 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	103 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	104 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	105 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	106 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	107 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	108 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	109 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	110 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	111 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	112 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	113 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	114 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	115 Pivm Wag.	\$1995	116 Pivm 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October 22, 1969

REC-58

EX-102

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Rivano  
1332 71st Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11228

Dear Mrs. Rivano:

I received your letter of October 16th, with enclosure, and want to thank you for sending me the newspaper clipping you forwarded. It was indeed thoughtful of you to do so.

Sincerely yours,  
*J. Edgar Hoover*

NOTE: Bufiles reflect nothing identifiable regarding Mrs. Rivano. The Director has received several copies of this clipping before. Alan Dale has sent the Director other copies of his column and his books which have been briefly acknowledged.

MAILED 22

OCT 28 1969

COMM-FBI

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*ekw* *ADM*

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DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
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Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*58 OCT 29 1969*

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

1332 - 71st Street  
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11228  
Oct. 16, 1969

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have written to you before on matters that concern and upset me. Enclosed is a local newspaper clipping. At the end it suggests that a copy be mailed to you. I urge you to read it, please. It states 'Wake Up, America'!!! I think we had better, before it is to late.

My God bless you and hold you in the hollow of His hand.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Elizabeth M. Rivano

EX-102

REC-58

44-2122-94

Oct 16 1969

ack/mml  
10-22-69  
FBI/EDW

1332-71<sup>st</sup> Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11228  
Oct. 16, 1969

Dear Mr. Hooser,

I have written to you before on matters that concern and upset me. Enclosed is a local newspaper clipping. At the end it suggests that a copy be mailed to you. I urge you to read it, please. It states "Wake Up, America"!!! I think we had better, before it is too late.

My God bless you and hold you in the hollow of His hand.

Sincerely yours,  
(Mrs.) Elizabeth M. Rivano

1 - ENCLOSURE

ack/nml  
10-22-69  
AWT/leku

AWT  
CORRESPONDENCE

nmv

Blylyn - Spectator 10/10/69

**Wake Up, America...**

## *ALAN DALE*



## **Joey - Bishop or Pawn?**

September 22, 1969! Joey Bishop again offered us (how many times this year?) the contentions of Mort Sahl. Again, the vitriolic tongue of Sahl lashed out against J. Edgar Hoover, the Pentagon, the Vice President. Again, his observations went unchallenged, unclarified, and unverified. What added to the outrage this time was the following introduction of Sahl by Bishop - "Each time I've had Mort on I've never afforded him the amount of time that he really requires. . ." (Requires to do what, Joey?)

did Sahl intimate that America has had enough of Mr. Hoover? Why? What does Sahl have against this great American who has devoted his life to the service of his country? Why doesn't Bishop remind Sahl (on TV) about the countless accomplishments and contributions of J. Edgar Hoover?

Readers of this column know that we have prepared a case against TV which is now ready for consideration by a Congressional committee. Our forces and tactics

did Sahl intimate that America has had enough of Mr. Hoover? Why? What does Sahl have against this great American who has devoted his life to the service of his country? Why doesn't Bishop remind Sahl (on TV) about the countless accomplishments and contributions of J. Edgar Hoover and of his gallant men of the FBI? Is freedom of speech afforded to those who attack, and denied to those who can offer justified

REC- 56

GM 94-51223-25

EX-103

October 30, 1969

Mrs. Nancy Minardi  
6 Parrott Place  
Brooklyn, New York 11228

Dear Mrs. Minardi:

I received your letter and the column written by Alan Dale on October 27th. It was kind of you to send it to me and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: We have had prior correspondence with Mrs. Minardi, last outgoing 3-13-69 when we advised her of the confidential nature of our files in reply to her inquiry about two individuals. We have nothing derogatory concerning her in our files. A copy of the enclosed column was previously forwarded to us by Alan Dale, its author. Dale has commented in his columns about remarks made by entertainment figures on television which he regards as un-American. He is especially critical of Mort Sahl and the Smothers Brothers, who are well known to the Bureau, and calls for a Congressional investigation of the television networks. We wrote to him on 10-15-69 advising him that television programing does not relate to a matter within the jurisdiction of the FBI. We have had prior correspondence with G. E. Griffin, the author of "The Fearful Master." He is a member of the John Birch Society and a coordinator of that Society in California. We have had citizen inquiries concerning his book.

MAILED 24 OCT 30 1969  
COMM-FBI  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED DIRECTOR FBI NOV 12 1969  
LMG:mrm (3)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mrs Nancy Minardi

6 Parrott Place

Bklyn, N. Y.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Invest.  
Washington, D. C.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,

Enclosed is one of the many columns Alan Dale has written in reference to Character assination by T. V. and I for one agree that an investigation of the T. V. Networks is in order.

Sincerely

Mrs. Nancy Minardi

6 PARROTT PLACE  
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11228  
READ "THE FEARFUL MASTER"  
By G. E. GRIFIN

COPY:hcv

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. DELOACH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. WALTERS \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. Bishop *[Signature]* ✓  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. METCALF \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY *[Signature]*

8/8

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Nancy Minard  
6 Parrot Place  
Staten Island, N. Y.

Dear Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Enclosed is one of the many columns Alan Hale has written in reference to character assassination by T. V. and I for one agree that an investigation of the T. V. networks is in order.

Sincerely  
Mrs. Nancy Minard

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Encl  
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ack 10-30-69

Dale  
M. Minard

ENCLOSURE

CORRESPONDENCE

**Wake Up, America...**

# **MALAN DALE**



## **Joey - Bishop or Pawn?**

September 22, 1969! Joey Bishop again offered us (how many times this year?) the contentions of Mort Sahl. Again, the vitriolic tongue of Sahl lashed out against J. Edgar Hoover, the Pentagon, the Vice President. Again, his observations went unchallenged, unclarified, and unverified. What added to the outrage this time was the following introduction of Sahl by Bishop -- "Each time I've had Mort on I've never afforded him the amount of time that he really requires. . ." (Requires to do what, Joey?)

did Sahl intimate that America has had enough of Mr. Hoover? Why? What does Sahl have against this great American who has devoted his life to the service of his country? Why doesn't Bishop remind Sahl (on TV) about the countless accomplishments and contributions of J. Edgar Hoover.

Readers of this column know that we have prepared a case against TV which is now ready for consideration by a Congressional committee. Our tapes and texts (plus those which shall be subpoenaed), will prove that TV is promoting demoralization and the Left Wing Revolution. Joey Bishop would be wise to check out how much time was donated to Mort Sahl by TV and by ABC and by his own show before uttering incredible statements such as the following which he directed to Sahl as the show ended—"...I think something is wrong when some people in power decide who should or should not be allowed a television show for his platform. If I remember correctly, before he died, George Lincoln Rockwell had no trouble at all finding

did Sahl intimate that America has had enough of Mr. Hoover? Why? What does Sahl have against this great American who has devoted his life to the service of his country? Why doesn't Bishop remind Sahl (on TV) about the countless accomplishments and contributions of J. Edgar Hoover and of his gallant men of the FBI? Is freedom of speech afforded to those who attack, and denied to those who can offer justified defense? It would be very simple for Bishop to ask Sahl precisely what it was that he disliked about the director of the FBI. Instead, Sahl is permitted to instill doubt and innuendo into the minds of young people who may not really know the contributions of J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI. But is that the plan, perhaps?

Then Sahl started on Spiro Agnew. Sahl said ". . . television did a great public service in reminding you all that we have a vice president. . ." He cryptically suggested that Mr. Agnew had somehow provoked the black people and had "alienated his audience." The show is over now, so we'll never really be able to decipher and confirm that allegation about Mr. Agnew, but Sahl had given the black people watching something to think about in these turbulent times. Another typical Mort Sahl whiplash which could help to undermine America — paid for by the Bishop Show and The American Broadcasting Company!

This show also featured comedian London Lee, known as